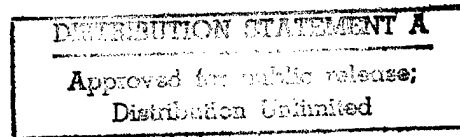


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USSR Report

AGRICULTURE

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3 August 1983

USSR REPORT
AGRICULTURE

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MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

ADVANTAGES OF ZONAL AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS STRESSED

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 24 May 83 p 1

/Article by P. Zinkev, Krasnoyarskiy Kray: "The Foundation -- Zonal Systems"/

/Text/ According to the Siberian schedules, spring arrived late on the Yenisey fields. It was not until the second 10-day period in May that the soil began to warm up. At the present time, the machine operators are taking full advantage of each good hour of time. Efficient work is being carried out by the grain growers in Altayskiy, Minusinskiy, Kuraginskiy, Karatuzskiy and other rayons, where extensive use is being made of non-schedule brigades and teams.

As always, the farmers in Shushenskiy Rayon are carrying out their sowing work in an efficient and harmonious manner and on a high agrotechnical level. During the past harvest season they obtained 25.6 quintals of grain from each hectare -- never before had the rayon obtained such a high average yield.

"Nor will we yield these positions this year" stated the chief agronomist for the RAPO /rayon agroindustrial association/ and honored agronomist of the RSFSR I.D. Gil'genberg, "All of the prerequisites have been created for further improving the productivity of a hectare."

I became acquainted with the long-term and scientifically sound program for raising the fertility of the fields, the implementation of which made it possible to assign the rayon the title of high culture of farming. The earning of this title was not easy. The introduction and mastering of crop rotation plans, the soil protection system, strain renewal and strain changing, the use of chemical processes, organized seed production operations and team organization of labor -- all of these factors were placed upon a strong foundation.

And what was the result? Over a period of 10-15 years, each hectare here furnished more vegetables by a factor of 2.5, grain -- by a factor of 1.8 and more potatoes -- by a factor of 1.7.

"Our arable land, similar to other arable lands throughout the kray, is located in the zone of risky farming. Thus it is not easy to achieve constant

improvements in their effectiveness" stated the 1st secretary of the rayon party committee V.V. Rogilo, "We are relying not only upon the efforts of the farmers but also upon those of their partners. For example, agricultural chemistry is carrying out fine repair work out on the fields. Yes and the grain growers themselves are not sitting with their arms folded. This spring they prepared 100 percent of their high quality seed, equipment and cadres of personnel and they are sowing their autumn plowed land and fallow.

There are one and a half dozen individual farms in various zones throughout the kray where, similar to the workers in Shushenskiy Rayon, the workers have been forming their harvests on a scientific basis over a period of many years. During the past harvest season, seven of them surpassed the highest level achieved under local conditions, having obtained more than 30 quintals of grain per hectare. This included the Nazarovskiy Sovkhoz which obtained 35.9 quintals of grain from each of 18,500 hectares, the sovkhoses Vladimirovskiy, Adadymskiy, Iskra, the Krasnyy Khleborob Kolkhoz, the Minderlinskoye Training Farm and the Kazachinskiy Experimental Station. Their achievements served as a starting point for the development of zonal farming systems. They encompass an entire complex of agrotechnical measures, such as soil-protective farming, efficient use of fertilizers, regional distribution of crops, the mastering of productive crop rotation plans with a field of clean fallow, the structure of the arable land, strain renewal and strain changing and a number of others.

In short, a system of agricultural regulations was created and it is being reinforced by actual practice. Last year, for the first time in many decades, the Yenisey fields furnished an average of 16.8 quintals of grain.

Certainly, the contribution by each natural-climatic zone to this mean arithmetical indicator turned out to be unequal. There was a perceptible shortfall in the Kansk forest-steppe region and yet the farmers can hardly be reproached for this: they developed a proper harvest, but they did not gather it all up owing to the fact that it did not ripen. Was a mistake made? Obviously. The soils in this zone are in extreme need of fertilizers which are saturated with phosphorus, fertilizers which stimulate the ripening of the plants, but unfortunately such dosages were not applied. A similar misfortune lies in wait at the present time: this year the potassium fertilizers are being increased in the kray by 5,700 tons, nitrogen fertilizers -- by 13,200 and the badly needed phosphorus fertilizers -- by only 1,000 tons.

When the discussion turns to growth in the productivity of a hectare in the Khakass Autonomous Oblast, there are those who at times shrug their shoulders in a hopeless gesture: it is maintained that the plan is being carried out and yet the results are not reassuring. Yes and is it possible to accomplish a great deal here while working in seven directions? Actually: in accordance with the statistics crop rotation plans were introduced, including anti-erosion plans, close to the optimum norms for a fallow field, improvements are being realized in work with seed and strain renewal and strain changing work is being carried out. Nevertheless, even during the last favorable harvest season for these areas, each hectare turned out to be more stingy than the overall kray average by 5.9 quintals of grain. We applied a deduction for the zonal conditions, but...

In accordance with data supplied by the Abakan Agrochemical Laboratory for two rayons of the same agrochemical zone -- Shushenskiy and Tashtypskiy, which is

in the Khakass Autonomous Oblast -- the total amount of annual precipitation and active temperatures, the presence of humus in the soil and the potential fertility of the soil are the same. Yet the cropping power of the Tashtypskiy field is inferior to the Shushenskiy field by 8.9 quintals per hectare. Similar comparative data can be developed between Krasnoturanskiy Rayon, one of the first in the southern part of the kray to have mastered the complete complex for the soil-protective system of farming and its neighboring Bogradskiy Rayon in the Khakass Autonomous Oblast. The former harvested 17.5 quintals of grain from each hectare and the latter -- 11.7 quintals.

The chief cause lay in the methods and means employed in the formation of the harvest. True, this expression is appropriate for several farms in the Khakass Autonomous Oblast. Of these, the Rossiya Sovkhoz stands out as being the only one having a complete set of equipment for the entire complex of soil-protective technology. And thus its fields are better than the surrounding ones. At a majority of the other Khakass farms, it is still extremely difficult to tame soil erosion and to increase on this basis the strength of a hectare using the zonal system: a complete set of equipment is not available. Here we have in mind KPSH-9 and KPE-3.8 cultivators, BIG-3 harrows and SZS-2.1 sowing machines. And the requisitions for spare parts for those units which are available are being satisfied to only 20-22 percent.

The dependence of farmin in the Khakass Autonomous Oblast upon the weather conditions can be avoided only if the farms here are supplied on a centralized basis with a complete set of anti-erosion equipment. If this is not done, the zonal system cannot be expected to operate at maximum capability.

The kray has reserves not only in the Khakass natural-climatic zone but in other regions as well. In particular, these reserves take the form of half mastered crop rotation plans in Bol'sheulyskiy, Dzerzhinskiy, Uyarskiy and other rayons and of extremely small dosages of fertilizer in Sharypovskiy, Balakhtinskiy, Nizhneingashskiy and Kozul'skiy Rayons.

Nevertheless, individual deficiencies cannot disrupt the system for the formation of cropping power on the Yenisey fields. It is being carried out in a purposeful manner.

"This year almost all of the grain crops in the kray are being grown following fallow and autumn plowing on well prepared soil" stated V.M. Buynovskiy, the chairman of the council of the kray's agroindustrial association -- the fields are being supplied with 1.8 million more tons of organic fertilizer than last year and 22,800 more tons of mineral fertilizer, which are being applied using only the local method. Wheat is being grown following the best predecessor arrangements. All of the farms have been supplied for the most part with good quality seed and new and promising varieties are being introduced into operations on an extensive scale."

Under the RAPO conditions, the partners of the farmers are increasing their activities. For example, agricultural chemistry has created 42 mechanized detachments for applying organic fertilizers during the principal soil cultivation. One substantial deficiency in the organization of work is being eliminated -- failure to evaluate properly the role played by non-schedule teams: last year there were 69 in the kray and this year 230 have already been created.

The mastering of zonal systems is obviously a task that cannot be completed in one day or even a year. But during all stages there is an extreme need for having a qualitative criterion for evaluating the actions of the executive agent -- from a scientific worker to a field technologist or machine operator. This then must become the basic principle for all workers attached to the 880 sowing complexes which moved out onto the Yenisey fields coincidental with the coming of spring to Siberia. At the present time, in all areas here, from the foothills of the Sayan Reservation to the Angara River region, the optimum sowing periods are at hand. A special 10-day period, from 15 to 25 May, has been established for the sowing campaign, the slogan of which -- establish zonal agricultural systems in all areas in a rapid and high quality manner -- is being followed by each farm and rayon.

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CSO: 1824/413

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

SPRING CROP SOWING CONCERNS IN KRASNOYARSK KRAY DISCUSSED

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 20 May 83 p 1

/Article by I. Kozlov and A. Shchegolev, Krasnoyarsk Kray: "Each Hour Valued Highly"

/Excerpts In setting out to examine the fields of the Kindyakovskiy section of the Yesaul'skiy Sovkhoz in Berezhovskiy Rayon, the farm's chief agronomist I. Politayev was convinced that work would be in full swing in connection with the sowing of peas and annual grasses. However, the picture which greeted him was entirely different. The units lay idle along the edges of the fields and there were no personnel in the vicinity.

The farmers completed sowing their early potatoes 10 days earlier than planned and they simultaneously commenced sowing their principal food crop -- wheat.

"The spring crop fields in Krasnoyarsk Kray consist of almost 3 million hectares" stated the chief agronomist of the kray's agricultural administration V. Kholodenko, "The optimum sowing periods for grain crops are at hand. However the weather favors the carrying out of field work only in the southern and central regions of the kray. Spring arrived 2 weeks late in the northern and eastern regions of Krasnoyarsk Kray. On the one hand, this was good in the sense that an unprecedented amount of snow fell. On the other hand however, the late spring shortened the optimum sowing periods. In such a situation, a high value is placed literally upon each hour of time. The prerequisites for successful work have been created -- all of the kray's sowing equipment was prepared for operations prior to 1 January."

The kray's farmers are displaying concern for the fertility of each hectare. The farms in Yermakovskiy, Yeniseyskiy, Bol'shemurtinskiy, Novoselovskiy, Tyukhtetskiy and Sukhobuzimskiy Rayons and in the Khakass Autonomous Oblast completed on schedule their annual tasks for delivering organic fertilizer to the fields. Against this background it is difficult to understand the position taken by the leaders of the Kanskiy, Kozul'skiy, Manskiy, Nizhneingashskiy, Sharypovskiy and a number of other RAPO's /rayon agroindustrial association, where the hauling of organic fertilizer in behalf of this year's harvest has been dragged out unjustifiably.

Compared to last year, the number of non-schedule teams and brigades in field crop husbandry has increased considerably throughout the kray.

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CSO: 1824/413

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

PROPER SOIL PREPARATION IN BEHALF OF SOWING OPERATIONS STRESSED

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 22 May 83 p 1

/Article by B. Prokhorov, Altay Kray/

/Excerpts/ What is happening with the weather? The sowing of grain crops is in progress and suddenly cold weather sets in accompanied by dark clouds and now today we have snow. Certainly, it is not easy to work under such inclement weather conditions. And the sowing work must be carried out during the best periods.

A work plan is available for the spring fields. But the agronomists are constantly on the alert. A cold spring can delay the period for harrowing and yet it must not postpone it past the danger line. The machine operators at the Kolkhoz imeni Krupskaya, headed by agronomist Vasiliy Antonovich Zvyagin, succeeded in condensing the working days. The harrowing was carried out on schedule and in four tracks! This maneuver underscores not only knowledge of the work but also a true understanding of the situation. This then is the nature of the work.

"Agricultural tactics" stated Vasiliy Antonovich, "are aimed at achieving good final results and a good harvest. At the present time, all work is being carried out in behalf of the harvest. We are sowing three varieties of wheat having different ripening periods. We began with Omskaya-9 which is a late ripening variety. We also have a mid-season ripening variety. And the last variety we are sowing is Novosibirskaya-67 which ripens earlier than the others. We will have a distinctive conveyer line for the harvest work and this will ensure a proper rhythm.

I recall a discussion I had last evening with the deputy director of the Altay Scientific-Research Institute of Farming and the Breeding of Agricultural Crops V.I. Stolyarov. "The preparation of the soil for sowing" stated Vladimir Ivanovich, "is a central concern of agricultural tactics. The harvest is greatly dependent upon the type of soil that the seed is planted in. It was on this basis that we furnished recommendations and I know that a majority of the kray's agronomists are adhering firmly to this rule."

The agronomist at the Kolkhoz imeni Krupskaya in Topchikhinskiy Rayon is also abiding by this rule.

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MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

BRIEFS

COMPLETION OF SOWING OPERATIONS--Barnaul, 31 May--The grain growers in the Altay region are completing their sowing of grain crops on their fourth million hectares of land. Notwithstanding the cold and delayed spring period, a majority of the kray's kolkhozes and sovkhoses sowed their grain, oil-bearing and technical crops during the best periods. Moreover, three fourths of the planned areas were sown in new and promising varieties. The farmers in Biyskiy, Sovetskiy, Togul'skiy and Pavlovskiy Rayons were the first to report having completed their grain crop sowing work and on the virgin lands of the Kulunda Steppe region -- Mikhaylovskiy and Kulundinskiy Rayons. /by A. Torichko/ /Text/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 1 Jun 83 p 1/ 7026

ALTAY GRAIN FIELDS--Altay Kray--The Altay grain fields are some of the largest in Siberia; they occupy 4 million hectares. The kray's grain growers are obligated to sell to the state 3.7 million tons of grain, including 1.5 million tons of strong, durum and valuable varieties of wheat. This spring period served as a stern test for the farmers. Prolonged and cold, it delayed the usual periods for the spring operations and it increased the intervals between the moisture retention and sowing operations. Thus the grain growers are striving to carry out all of the work of the final stage without interruption. For the Altay farmers, the campaign to retain the moisture is considered to be part of the harvest campaign. This year the arsenal of the kray's grain growers is rich as never before. Last year the introduction of zonal and scientifically sound farming systems and cultivation technologies for each crop produced a noticeable increase in yield. And this spring the agrotechnical measures have been reinforced by organizational measures and the mass use of collective contracts. Such contracts are being employed in field crop husbandry by 1,300 brigades and teams, with 1.3 million hectares of land having been made available for their use. In particular, extensive use is being made of collective contracts in one of the kray's largest grain sowing rayons -- Aleyskiy Rayon. The sowing of spring wheat in the Altay has been completed. It has been planted on an area of almost 3 million hectares. The tending of the crops has commenced on fields throughout the kray. /by V. Golovachev/ /Excerpts/ /Moscow TRUD in Russian 4 Jun 83 p 1/ 7026

TILLING OF FALLOW LAND--Kyzyl, 26 May--The grain growers at the Sovkhoz imeni S.K. Tok have commenced tilling their fallow earlier than last year. The mastering of the zonal system of farming and the introduction of soil-protective agricultural practices have required that the field crop growers in the Tuva ASSR prepare their soil for the future harvest in a thorough manner. This year

the area of fallow land in the autonomous republic exceeds 114,000 hectares. Since early spring the tilling of fallow has been carried out by specialized teams on large farms in Kyzylskiy, Tandinskiy and Piy-Khemskiy Rayons, where each year fine yields of grain, feed and potatoes are obtained. /by A. Bykov/ /Excerpts/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 27 May 83 p 1/ 7026

250,000 HECTARES OF FALLOW--Irkutsk--The farmers in the Angara River region have commenced tilling their fallow, the area of which has reached almost 250,000 hectares throughout the oblast this year. Sweep cultivation of the soil is being employed extensively in the steppe zone. /Text/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 27 May 83 p 1/ 7026

WHEAT SOWING COMPLETED--Kurgan--The oblast's machine operators have completed sowing their wheat. The chief grain crop has been planted on more than 1 million hectares. The most fertile fields have been set aside for seed and intensive varieties of local breeding, which furnish up to 50 quintals of grain per hectare on rich soil. /Text/ /Moscow TRUD in Russian 29 May 83 p 1/ 7026

UNUSUALLY FINE WEATHER--Kuybyshev Oblast--In the past, the farmers could only dream of the type of weather which presently prevails in the central Volga region. Each day warm winds follow hard on the heels of generous rain clouds. Then once again the rain is followed by warm and sunny weather. "These are ideal conditions for both grain and feed" stated the director of the Yelkhovskiy Sovkhoz in Koshkinskiy Rayon Vyacheslav Yeliseyev, "But we will not not change our controlled rainfall." /by A. Bochkarev/ /Excerpt/ /Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 11 Jun 83 p 1/ 7026

KRASNODAR HARVEST--Krasnodar Kray--The center of gravity of organizational and mass political work is shifting to the fields where the fate of the harvest is being decided. It is intended to conduct the harvest by the large-group method through the efforts of 1,215 complexes and detachments, and party groups have been created in each of them. Along with the reaping it is intended to gather the straw and chaff, to loosen and plow the soil, and to prepare the seeds for the next crop. The reapers will go out into the fields in the next few days. Unfortunately, one still cannot say that everything is ready for the work which culminates the hard labor of the grain growers. Kuban workers have still not received a large number of batteries and tractor tires. Certain plants of Volgograd, Kuybyshev and Saratov oblasts are doing a poor job of filling orders for the delivery of gasoline of the A-72 brand and lubricants of group G. Managers of soviets of the Korenovskiy, Kavkazskiy, Beloglinskiy, Starominskiy and several other rayon agro-industrial associations are displaying an inexcusable inefficiency in the organization of repair, as a result of which some of the harvesting machines are still not ready for the harvest. The preparation of sorting mechanisms, warehouse facilities and drying equipment is proceeding slowly at the Beloglinskiy, Albashskiy and a number of other elevators. Managers from certain cities and workers' settlements of the kray are not filling orders for sending people and automotive transportation for the harvest. The harvest is not far away. Preparation for this important work requires well-arranged and purposive efforts on the part of all units of the agro-industrial complex. /Excerpt/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 9 Jun 83 p 1/ 11772

CAPRICIOUS SPRING WEATHER--Sverdlovsk, 23 May--This present spring period has been a capricious one in the central Urals region. The cold weather has been followed by rainfall and snow and a hot period -- by inclement weather. But the oblast's livestock breeders are taking advantage of all opportunities for converting the herd over to the summer period without suffering a loss in productivity. /by V. Stakheyev/ /Excerpt/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 24 May 83 p 4/ 7026

FIELD WORK PREPARATIONS--Nalchik--The southern summer is impetuous. It is no wonder that in the Northern Caucasus they think that today is for planting and tomorrow--harvesting. It is necessary to prepare for it. The repair of harvesting equipment is underway everywhere, and in many places it has already been completed. Unfortunately, not everything depends on the machine operators and repair services themselves. There is a critical shortage of corn harvesting combines. So far not enough of the powerful Khersonets-200 combines have arrived. And the Khersonets-7 sets of equipment that were previously produced have been removed from production. There is a great danger of prolonging the time periods for the harvest, and this means losses of the crop. Moreover, a delay in the harvest can impede the preparation of the soil for next year's crop. But still the machine operators are trying to reduce the difficulties caused by the inefficiency of the machine builders. Last year at the Kotlyarevskaya station the machine operators headed by M. Butusov, a bearer of the order "Emblem of Honor," created a highly productive line for cleaning corn cobs of husks. According to Mikhail Grigor'yevich's calculations this will make it possible to reduce losses of corn grain by 15-20 percent. And the residuals remaining on the threshing floors have turned out to be excellent feed for livestock. The need for people has also decreased. With the startup of such a cleaning complex it has been possible to do without the assistance of the numerous patron workers who have come for the harvest. Industrial technology, as we see, is becoming a true mark of today's agricultural production in all of its stages. /Text/ /Moscow TRUD in Russian 24 May 83 p 1/ 11772

CAPTIVE OF AMBITION--Stavropol Kray--On 18 February our newspaper published an article entitled "Stavropol Workers Are Conducting Planting." It was particularly about the poor supply of spare parts for the sets of planting equipment. Among those who let the farmers down from year to year is the Krasnyy Aksay plant in Rostov-on-Don: they constantly fail to make deliveries of blades for cultivators. This brief remark caused a furious reaction from the USSR Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building. The chief of the Soyuzpochvomash all-union production association, V. Nikolayenkov, in his response to the editorial staff asserts the opposite: "The information about the failure of the Krasnyy Aksay plant to deliver cultivator blades to farms of Stavropol Kray is erroneous." V. Nikolayenkov goes on to announce that the plant is delivering parts even ahead of schedule. Does this mean that the newspaper has given an underserved reproach to what appears from the ministry's response to be a leading enterprise? With repeated careful investigation of the true state of affairs it became clear: it was Comrade Nikolayenkov's information that was

mistaken. The Rostov plant was indebted to farmers of Stavropol Kray for 21,625 blades. And if the Aksay workers actually did fulfill the delivery plans for certain kinds of models, they completely forgot about others. For example not a single blade for the models SK-42 B and SK-43 B was delivered to the shops of the kray. Perhaps this is not so important? Not at all. Just as parts for a motorcycle will not do for, say, a bicycle, various cultivators require various blades. In fact the only ones that are interchangeable are those that are marked S-5.5 and S-5.6, and all the others, no matter how you turn them, will fit only that equipment for which they are intended. And so the cultivator stands idle because of such "trivial." And the Stavropol machine operators still are not feeling any relief from the fact that while covering the 4-month assignments for certain kinds of spare parts, the Rostov machine operators have failed to deliver blades for other kinds. And even if this is calculated in terms of "points," it still turns out badly: during the 4 months the Krasnyy Aksay was indebted to the Stavropol workers for more than 5,000 cultivator blades. In a word, as usual there are not enough cultivator blades in Stavropol. And the blunders in the organization of the production of spare parts for agriculture pertain directly both to the Krasnyy plant and to the Soyuzpochvomash all-union association. These blunders must be eliminated: of course hasty, unverified responses to newspaper articles certainly do not contribute to this. [Text] [Moscow TRUD in Russian 21 May 83 p 1] 11772

HALF-EMPTY TANKS--Rostov Oblast--The grain is now ripening rapidly on the Don fields. According to the predictions of specialists the harvesting will begin 10-15 days earlier than last year. The kolkhozes and sovkhoses are completing the preparations for the harvest. But not all of the partners in agriculture are concerned about the forthcoming harvest. An alarm signal came into the SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' correspondence point in Rostov-on-Don: at the petroleum bases of Zimovnikovskiy, Dubovskiy, Zavetinskiy, Remontnenskiy, Zernogradskiy, Millerovskiy and other rayons they had only a little gasoline, diesel fuel and lubricants. Yet this time in the Don area is a busy time of procuring feeds and caring for planted areas, and the harvest is coming. The farms are supplied with fuel directly, and the machines are going out into the fields with half empty tanks. We checked the signal at the Rostov Goskomnefteprodukt administration. Yes, they know about it there and they are taking measures . . . but the fact is that the Northern Caucasus pipeline administration of the USSR Goskomnefteprodukt by 8 June had failed to deliver a single ton of the 54,000 tons of diesel fuel that were allotted to the oblast for this month, and they are not promising to begin deliveries until within . . . 10 days, that is, when it will be necessary to be harvesting the grain. The Volgograd Goskomnefteprodukt administration is failing to deliver gasoline to the rayon petroleum bases, justifying its actions by the shortage of railroad tankers. There is also an abnormal situation with respect to supplying the farms with lubricants for tractors. Thus the Perm Goskomnefteprodukt administration has dispatched only 500 of the 1,800 tons of lubricants, and the Orenburg administration and the Goskomnefteprodukt of the Azerbaijan SSR which were to deliver 500 tons each, have not sent the oblast a single ton. Strange as it may seem, such a situation is not evoking operational intervention on the part of the USSR and RSFSR Goskomnefteprodukt. Telegrams are being sent from Rostov to Moscow requesting that the delivery of fuel and lubricants be accelerated in June, taking into account the beginning of the grain harvesting times. But the situation is not changing for the better and this is causing legitimate alarm and disturbance among the farmers. [Text] [Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 9 Jun 83 p 1] 11772

KUBAN HARVEST--Krasnodar--The breath of harvest. It is increasingly perceptible in everything, and primarily in the concerns for making the technical equipment completely ready. Throughout the kray 16,900 combines and about 12,300 reapers joined into 1,215 transport-harvest detachments will participate in the threshing. And during this time, behind such large figures which characterize the forthcoming harvest it is as though one cannot see the vexing "trivia." For in general there are no trivia in the harvest. Everything is major here. But still there are shortcomings. Thus on the 50 let Oktyabrya kolkhoz in Shcherbinovskiy Rayon almost half of the combines are not ready for threshing, although according to their report they have all been "put on the line of readiness." The grain products administration is also faced with difficult problems. In spite of the fact that the elevator capacities of the kray are considerably greater this year, there is concern about certain existing receiving enterprises which are to be renovated or in any case to undergo capital repair. Thus the Ladozhskiy elevator, which serves Ust'-Labinskiy Rayon, the most productive in the Kuban area, is leaning like the Tower of Pisa. It is located on quicksand. It is necessary to have immediate and skilled assistance on the part of the USSR Ministry of Procurements. As in past years, during this year's harvest there are still chronically unsolved problems of the "four points"--as usual there are no truck coverings, batteries, combine belts or electroides for welding work. "This year's harvest, one must say, is the first difficult test for the kray agro-industrial association," says N. Yeliseyev, chairman of the kray agro-industrial association and first deputy chairman of the ispolkom of the Krasnodar Kray soviet of people's deputies. "But still the final goal for us is to fulfill the commitments adopted by Kuban grain growers--to sell the state 4.26 million tons of high-quality grain." /Text/ /Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Jun 83 p 1/ 11772

CSO: 1824/417

LIVESTOCK FEED PROCUREMENT

NEW TECHNOLOGY FOR REDUCING NUTRIENT LOSSES IN GRAIN CORN

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 14 Jun 83 p 2

/Article by A. Omel'chenko, doctor of economic sciences and director of the Scientific Research Institute of Animal Husbandry for the Forest-Steppe and Forest Districts of the Ukrainian SSR; V. Gnoyevoy, candidate of agricultural sciences and head of a department; M. Chabayev, candidate of agricultural sciences; Ye. Monakh, chairman of the Khar'kov oblsel'khoztekhnika, Kharkov: "Using A New Technology"/

/Text/ The farms in Kharkov Oblast are mastering a new technology for preserving grain corn of ears with increased moisture content. This is making it possible to lower considerably the nutrient losses during the storage of feed.

There is no need to convince the farmers regarding the virtues of corn. Each one is aware of the nutritional value of grain corn -- literally the most valuable feed for all types of agricultural animals and poultry. Nevertheless, the growing areas for corn grown for grain purposes have decreased from year to year. True, the situation is being corrected somewhat at the present time. However, it still cannot be said that this crop occupies an eminent position.

What is the problem? In our opinion, one of the principal considerations is the fact that the farms are still not being supplied with the required early-ripening hybrids of corn. At harvest time, the material being sown at the present time furnishes grain having a moisture content of 30-45 percent. A considerable portion of the grain spoils during storage, with a sharp reduction in the nutrient content taking place in the remaining amount. The farms are not equipped with the required quantities of drying equipment. Moreover, this equipment requires a large amount of fuel and great labor expenditures. There is an old peasant method for storing the ears in ventilated storehouses -- cribs. But even these cribs do not provide protection against losses, which reach 25-30 percent and even more during some years.

Meanwhile, a reliable method is available for protecting grain corn against a raised moisture content. At the present time, there is every reason for recommending its use for production operations. Here we have in mind the placing in storage for feed purposes, in lined ground trenches, of crushed ears. Such ears are preserved as a result of lactic and acetic fermentation and also the physiological "dryness" of the grain. The losses in dry substances

in the feed (we refer to it as "cornage") during the storage period (roughly 5 months) amount to only 6-10 percent -- less by a factor of 2.5-3 than losses from crib storage. Compared to drying of the grain, a savings of 3-4 rubles is realized per ton and fuel consumption is reduced by 30-35 kilograms.

Accumulated experience testifies to the fact that practically every farm is capable of preserving ears of corn of a raised moisture content. They can have a moisture content of from 26 to 50 percent when placed in storage, but the best results are obtained when the feed placed in storage has a moisture content of 30-40 percent.

The degree of crushing of the ears in the case of trench storage is determined by the zootechnical requirements for feeding the animals and by the conditions required for good preservation of the nutrients both during storage and when being used. In accordance with the zootechnical requirements, crushed grain corn of a raised moisture content for large-horned cattle must be less than 3 millimeters in size and that for hogs -- less than 2 millimeters (not less than 80 percent of the entire bulk). Naturally, it is best to crush the corn to this degree prior to placing the ears in storage. However, as yet we still do not have crushers which make it possible to do this with a high level of productivity. And high productivity is a necessary condition in view of the fact that a tremendous amount of raw material must be processed within a very brief interval of time.

The Scientific-Research Institute of Animal Husbandry for the Forest Steppe and Forest Districts of the UkSSR, in collaboration with the Kharkov Oblast Sel'khoztekhnika, has developed industrial lines for the crushing of ears which have a rather high productivity and involve minimal expenditures of manual labor. These lines involve the use of series equipment -- hammer crushers from AVM-0.65 units, ISK-3 crusher-mixers and also M-8 hammer crushers which were designed and produced at Kharkov enterprises. Their productivity during crushing of the ears reaches 15 tons per hour. Use is also being made of reequipped IRT-165 crushers.

Feeder-batchers are necessarily being introduced for the purpose of ensuring uniform loading of the crushers in a line. Towards this end, use was made of GUAR-15 self-dumping units with MB-62 hopper-batchers and feeder-batchers from AVM-1.5 units, manufactured at enterprises throughout the oblast. Use can also be made of the equipment of KORK-15 feed preparation shops. In this instance, the crushed mixture is delivered to the storage area from the feed preparation shop by tractor towed self-dumping wagons. If the line for crushing the ears is set up alongside the trench, then the mixture is moved into the trench by means of a bulldozer.

The crushers discussed above ensure adequate crushing of the ears for preservation purposes. However, it is impossible to satisfy the zootechnical requirements for feed using these machines. Thus the mixture must undergo additional crushing prior to being fed to the animals.

A ground storehouse (trench) has three reinforced concrete walls and a foundation. On the outside its walls are reinforced by supports which provide greater structural strength during tamping down of the bulk by heavy tractors; the ground is warmed so as to prevent freezing of the feed. The width of the

trench is 8-10 meters, height -- 2-3 and length -- 30-40 meters (depending upon the quantity of feed). One thousand tons of ears can be stored in such a trench.

All of the work must be organized in a manner such that the trench can be filled and hermetically sealed in just 3-4 days. If this is not enough time, then the bulk should be stored in parts. A portion which has been stored to the entire height of the trench and has been well packed down during the first 3-4 days, should be covered over with polyethylene plastic 0.15-0.25 millimeters thick and with a 20-30 centimeter layer of green easily-ensiled bulk. Subsequently the bulk is filled almost to the entire height of the storehouse, well packed down and then covered with plastic and a layer of silage bulk on top of the plastic. Finally the feed is covered with a damp layer of straw cuttings 10-15 centimeters thick.

When the technology is properly observed, a light yellow feed with a slight sour grain aroma is obtained. A kilogram of preserved ears contains 1.2-1.8 percent organic acids (mainly lactic and acetic), 0.7-0.74 feed units and 34-36 grams of protein. The feed corn is harvested during the phase of waxy ripeness, at which time a maximum yield of nutrients per hectare is ensured. In the process, the harvesting of the grain corn is not dependent upon the weather. Dust does not form during the preserving of the grain and the grain is willingly consumed and completely assimilated by the animals, for it is superior to dried grain in terms of both taste qualities and biological value.

Since the new technology makes it possible to preserve grain corn having a high moisture content, the farms can commence harvesting their crops to be used for forage 1.3 weeks earlier than the usual periods. As a result, a reduction takes place in the field losses. The stalks and leaves of such corn are ensiled better. The fields are made available for other crops at an earlier date and they can be prepared more easily for the sowing of other crops, including winter crops.

At the Kutuzovka Experimental Farm of the Scientific Research Institute of Animal Husbandry for the Forest Steppe and Forest Districts of the UkSSR, where 1,150 cows are maintained, from 800 to 1,300 tons of corn ears have been procured annually for 10 years now. They are fed to large-horned cattle, including cows, at the rate of 2-3 kilograms per head daily. It is interesting to note that in terms of milk production properties, this feed is not inferior to fodder beets. For cows which were fed these ears, the daily milk yield was 6 percent higher than that for cows which were fed corn which had been stored in cribs. Feed consumption per quintal of milk decreased by 10 percent and from a monetary standpoint -- by 22 percent. During the fattening of young large-horned cattle stock, the average daily weight increases increased by 13 percent and feed consumption decreased by 12.16 percent.

Fine results were obtained during the fattening of hogs. Compared to pure grain corn, the ears contain more cellulose. In order to reduce its proportion in a ration (it must not exceed 7-8 percent), as many husks as possible and a portion of the cobs must be removed prior to storage. If the moisture content of the harvested corn (up to 32 percent) permits use of the PPK-4 attachments for the Niva combines, then ideally thrashed and crushed grain should be preserved for hogs.

A production check on the technology was carried out at the Krasnyy Oskol Specialized Farm for the Production of Beef and at an inter-farm association for the fattening of hogs in Izyumskiy Rayon in Kharkov Oblast. Last year, 1,800 and 1,500 tons of preserved ears were placed in storage here. In view of the positive results realized from this experiment, 250 reinforced concrete storehouses are being prepared in Kharkov Oblast at the present time, each for 1,000 tons of ears. Enterprises in Kharkov have undertaken, in the form of patronage assistance, to produce 100 ISK-3 crushers and a like number of M-8 hammer crushers. This year the task is being assigned of placing in storage 300,000 tons and in 1985 -- 500,000 tons of preserved ears.

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AGRO-ECONOMICS AND ORGANIZATION

PROBLEMS OF STATISTICAL CONTROL OF APK SYSTEM SET FORTH

Moscow VESTNIK STATISTIKI in Russian No 4, Apr 83 pp 3-9

/Article by L. Vashchukov, chief of the Statistical Administration for Agriculture of the USSR Central Statistical Administration: "Tasks for a Statistical Study of the Agroindustrial Complex"/

/Text/ In advancing an extensive program for the social development of Soviet society and raising national welfare, the 26th CPSU Congress first and foremost assigned the task of improving the supply of food products for the population. The food program of the USSR for the period up to 1990 was developed for the purpose of solving this task.

The May 1982 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee examined and apprived the country's food program and it outlined measures for its practical implementation. These measures are directed towards improving the economic mechanism and strengthening the kolkhoz and sovkhoz economies, increasing the material interest of the agricultural workers in increasing the production of goods and raising their quality, retaining workers engaged in animal husbandry on the kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other agricultural enterprises, further improving housing, communal-domestic and socio-cultural living conditions for the rural population, staffing the kolkhozes and sovkhozes with leading personnel and specialists and raising their role and responsibility in the development of agricultural production.

Two aspects can be singled out in the food program: long-range goals and immediate tasks. For the future, the implementation of the food program must ensure the consumption of the more important food products based upon scientifically sound and rational norms. The current and urgent tasks of the food program consist of ensuring a continuous supply of food products for the population as rapidly as possible. Towards this end, specific and high goals have been outlined for the production of the principal types of agricultural products. One key problem stands out in particular -- accelerated intensification and achievement of stable grain production. During the 1986-1990 period, the average annual production of bread and forage grain must be increased to 250-255 million tons annually, vegetables and melon crops -- to 37-39, potatoes -- to 90-92 and fruit and berries -- to 14-15 million tons annually. The chief means for increasing the production volumes for farming products -- raising the cropping power of the agricultural crops. A further conversion is planned over to the use of intensive methods for the management

of animal husbandry (raising and fattening of livestock on an industrial basis, creation of a strong feed base). As a result, the average annual production of meat during the 12th Five-Year Plan will be raised to 20-20.5 million tons, milk -- to 104-106 million tons, eggs -- to 78-79 billion.

A distinctive feature of the food program decision is the all-round approach for developing agriculture and its associated national economic branches, which form the APK /agroindustrial complex/.

The economic and social prerequisites for creating the APK arose as a result mainly of the consistent implementation of the party's agrarian policies based upon development of the country's overall economy. The procurement-marketing system has now been developed on a rather extensive basis. A powerful multiple-branch industry has been created, one which provides field crop husbandry and animal husbandry with the required modern means of production. A far-flung network of enterprises and organizations has arisen in the rural areas for the purpose of supplying material resources, repairing and servicing equipment, applying fertilizers and carrying out land reclamation work and construction; inter-farm cooperation and agroindustrial integration have undergone further development.

At the present time, agricultural products are being used in more than 80 branches. Meanwhile the agrarian sector of the economy is being supplied with products from more than 90 branches. Industrial enterprises supply the kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other agricultural enterprises with roughly 70 percent of the overall volume of tractors being produced, more than 29 percent of the trucks, 96 percent of the combines, 80 percent of the mineral fertilizers and almost all of the chemical agents being produced for protecting plants and animals. Increases have taken place in the delivery volumes to the rural areas of construction materials, construction equipment, electrical equipment, fuel and other industrial means of production. At the present time, more than four fifths of the fixed productive capital of agriculture is of industrial origin. The level and structure for the production of food products is conditioned during this modern stage by the development not only of agriculture but also of other branches of the economy. This was a determinant factor in the creation of the APK and it was of tremendous value in solving the food problem and in singling it out as an independent object for planning and control.

Thus the APK by its very essence is an integral production-economic unit of the national economy. Taking into account inter-branch relationships within the complex and the specific requirements of a technological and social nature at the present time, a list has been defined by agreement with USSR Gosplan of the branches, sub-branches, types of activity and also the ministries and departments constituting the agroindustrial complex. The departmental structure of the APK includes the following ministries and departments for all types of activities: USSR Minsel'khos /Ministry of Agriculture/, USSR Minplodoovoshchkhos /Ministry of the Fruit and Vegetable Industry/, USSR Minvodkhos /Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources/, USSR Goskomsel'khos'tekhnika, USSR Minzagotovok /Ministry of Procurements/, Glavmikrobioprom, USSR Minpishcheprom /Ministry of the Food Industry/, USSR Minmyasomolprom /Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry/, Tsentrosoyuz /Central Union of Consumers' Societies/, USSR Gosleskhos, USSR Minrybkhos

/Ministry of the Fish Industry/, USSR Minlegprom /Ministry of Light Industry/ (particularly the primary processing of agricultural raw materials), USSR Mintorg /Ministry of Trade/ (trade in food products), Minsel'khoz mash /Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building/ and Minzhivmash (particularly the production of agricultural equipment), Minlegpishchemash /Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household appliances/ (production of machines for branches of the agroindustrial complex), Minudobreniy /Ministry of Fertilizers/ (production of fertilizers and plant protective agents), and USSR Minsel'stoy /Ministry of Rural Construction/ (production and non-production construction in agriculture). At the same time, a list of statistical indicators for describing the activities of the APK was developed: gross output in comparable and current prices, for the principal types and in physical terms, production expenses, profit, profitability, number of workers, wage fund, labor productivity, material expenditures and fixed productive capital.

The creation of the APK makes it possible to implement in a more effective manner branch and program-special purpose planning, which is based upon the final result -- continuous supplying of the country with food goods. This is the goal of a uniform system for administering agriculture and its associated branches, both in the center as well as in the various areas. In the rayons, krays, oblasts and ASSR's, agroindustrial associations have been created and in union republics and in the center -- agroindustrial complexes.

The decisions handed down during the May 1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee serve as a program for action by our Soviet people, who welcomed them with great enthusiasm. They serve as a principal direction to be followed in the work being performed by all organs of state statistics. The USSR TsSU has developed measures which contain specific tasks drawn from the decisions handed down during the Plenum for the organs of state statistics. The principal tasks are: organizing statistical observation of the course of fulfillment of the food program; statistical study of the fulfillment of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers with regard to strengthening and further developing the agrarian sector of the economy; the formation of an information base for the APK and the organization of statistical observation over its development and the interrelationships among the various spheres and production efforts; further improvements in the economic analysis of agricultural development and in the proportional and balanced development of all branches constituting the APK; achieving improvements in the methodological problems and developing a system of statistical indicators which describe the activities of the APK's and the mechanism for their interrelationships; expanding considerably the precautionary information on planned disproportions and disparities in the fulfillment of plans and tasks and the carrying out of one-time investigations and censuses; raising the reliability of reporting data, improving accounting and reporting; providing the directive, planning and administrative organs with scientifically sound statistical information.

During the 11th and 12th Five-Year Plans, the primary task of the organs of state statistics will be that of organizing statistical observation over the course of fulfillment of the food program and the development of the agroindustrial complex. The organs of state statistics at all levels must deal with these problems in a systematic manner in the statistical reports and publications.

Using the system of indicators for dynamic series developed by the USSR TsSU, the republic, kray and oblast statistical organs must develop, taking local peculiarities into account, dynamic series which reflect the tasks of the food program and the course of their fulfillment during the years of the 11th and 12th Five-Year Plans.

The organs of state statistics at all levels are confronted with the task of improving the methodologies and the systems of indicators and statistical works which describe most completely the activities of all branches, enterprises and organizations belonging to rayon, oblast, kray, autonomous and republic APO's.

The USSR TsSU has formed a system of indicators for dynamic series for the structure of an APK and its component branches. The principal criterion for defining the spheres of an APK was detaching them from branches and sub-branches, the link with which was less substantial or immaterial, and including in the APK those branches and sub-branches of the national economy which in terms of their functional role and economic interrelationships are closely associated with agriculture, with the overall final goal being that of ensuring that the population is supplied with food products.

In this regard the republic, kray and oblast statistical administration must, based upon recommendations by the USSR TsSU, determine the branch and departmental structure for the regional agroindustrial complexes, carry out work associated with the formation and systematization of statistical data for all spheres and types of their activities, develop dynamic statistical series for branches of the APK and carry out the required computations and analysis of the data.

The activities of the APK's, OAPO's /oblast agricultural production association/ and RAPO's must become objects for constant and systematic observation and study not only by the statistical administrations and departments for agriculture but also by other subunits of republic, kray and oblast statistical administrations, as well as by rayon inspectorates and RIVS's /rayon information-computer system/. Coordination is required for the work carried out between the administrations and departments of republic TsSU's, particularly with regard to the collection, development, summarization and analysis of data and the preparation of reports and information for publicizing the development of the APK.

The statistical administration for agriculture, jointly with other administrations and departments of the USSR TsSU, the TsSU's of union republics, statistical administrations and inspectorates must solve the problem of supplying the agroindustrial associations with statistical information and also develop a system of statistical indicators which describe their financial-economic activities.

The creation of the APK and the adoption of the food program require an all-round approach for analyzing and carrying out a statistical study on the development of agricultural production and its associated branches. In the process, priority attention is given to analyzing the course of fulfillment of the food program, the effectiveness of APK development and the course of fulfillment of the decrees of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers, approved during the May Plenum. A requirement has developed for

providing the leading organs in the complex with timely information on the production, procurements, transporting, processing, storage and trade in the principal agricultural products. Moreover, a more thorough analysis is required of the bottlenecks which exist throughout the entire chain, from the production of the product to its eventual consumption.

In addition, in carrying out the economic work reliance must be placed upon studying the effect of improvements in the economic mechanism upon the activities and economies of backward and unprofitable kolkhozes and sovkhozes and analyzing the influence of cost accounting principles with regard to achieving stable profitability as the basis for expanded reproduction. Great importance is attached to studying the new trends in the processes of specialization and concentration in the agroindustrial production of agricultural enterprises.

In connection with the use of a comprehensive approach for analyzing the APK, special attention should be given to studying the rates of development for agriculture and the branches of industry which provide it with the means of production and also the branches which process (including reprocessing) the output of field crop husbandry and animal husbandry. An extremely important aspect is that of analyzing the mechanism of interrelationships and economic relationships among the APK branches: cost accounting relationships in some of its elements, the formation of expenditures and production profitability during individual stages in the work of obtaining and processing agricultural products.

Considerable importance is attached to those problems concerned with the use of capital investments, placing fixed capital and production capabilities in operation in branches of the APK, the effectiveness of capital investments in rural construction, the development of a production base for contractual organizations and the introduction of brigade contracts. A requirement exists for more thorough analysis of the status of trade in certain types of goods, for raising the level of trade services for the population, especially in the rural areas, for further developing the logistical base for trade and particularly the storage of potatoes and fruit and vegetable products of consumer cooperation and so forth. Large scale problems concerned with improving economic analysis must be solved using statistics for transport and communications, finances and prices, housing-communal economy and domestic services for the population, public health, culture and labor.

In connection with implementation of the food program, those problems which are concerned with a statistical study of the indicators which describe the availability, delivery and use in agriculture of material (including land), labor and financial resources are becoming of priority importance. A most important factor for raising production efficiency in all spheres of the APK -- strict observance of the regime for realizing economies in all sectors and prudent use of all-union resources. Here there are many unsolved problems, the thorough study of which is the task of the organs of state statistics. This involves mainly the problems concerned with the maintenance, storage and use of agricultural machines and equipment; the mechanization and electrification of production in field crop husbandry and animal husbandry; the efficient use of equipment and fuel and lubricating materials. The food program calls for the

productivity of tractors to be raised by 20 percent during the current decade and to achieve an economy of 5 percent in the use of fuel and lubricating materials during mechanized and transport operations.

An analysis of those factors which affect the output-capital ratio is considered to be vital, especially with regard to intensifying the requirements for more complete and better utilization of available material resources and the industrialization of agriculture and improving the role played by branches of the APK, upon which the further formation of the conditions required for expanded reproduction in agriculture are dependent.

In recent years the growth in fixed capital in the agrarian sector of the APK has exceeded the increase in the production of goods. Thus the average annual volume of fixed productive capital of an agricultural nature in public agriculture during the 10th Five-Year Plan increased by a factor of 3.5 compared to the 7th Five-Year Plan, whereas the average annual production of agricultural goods increased by a factor of only 1.7. The output-capital ratio during this period decreased by one half. During this modern stage, agricultural development is passing through a period of increased quantities of equipment, technical reconstruction and modernization of production and the formation of a logistical base for increasing the rates of growth for agricultural production. However a reduction in output capital ratio requires a comprehensive study of this phenomenon.

In raising the efficiency of agricultural production, a substantial role will be played by the complete and efficient use of reclaimed lands, mineral fertilizers and chemical means for protecting plants. It is expected that by 1985 the area of irrigated lands will be expanded to 20.8 million hectares and by 1990 -- to 23-25 million hectares and drained lands -- to 15.5 and 18-19 million hectares respectively. In 1985, agriculture will be supplied with 26.5 million tons of mineral fertilizers and in 1990 -- 30-32 million tons. The production of toxic chemicals, herbicides, chemical feed additives and preservatives is being increased. The chief goal of their efficient utilization -- a greater return from the reclaimed lands and mineral fertilizers.

A statistical study of the mentioned problems requires the development and use of index and mathematical methods of analysis, with more extensive use being made of electronic computer equipment.

Important tasks have arisen in connection with the goals called for in the food program for increasing the production of animal husbandry products. A more thorough study should be carried out on the problems associated with the use of brood stock and the causes of low numbers of offspring, low average daily weight increases, great losses in cattle and low returns from feed must be uncovered. In the area of animal husbandry, a principal direction to be followed for improving accounting and analysis is that of efficient feed production operations. Special attention has been given in the food program to the creation of a strong feed base, the efficient use of feed and to raising the return from and effectiveness of feed. By 1985 the plans call for feed production throughout the country to be increased to 500 million tons and in 1990 -- to 540-550 million tons of feed units and also for measures to be carried out aimed at achieving further intensification of field and meadow-pasture feed production and to raise the productivity of all feed lands. The

statistical organs are obligated to analyze in a comprehensive and complex manner those problems associated with feed production, with maximum attention being given to the quality of the feed, to ensuring that animal husbandry is adequately supplied with feed and that the feed is stored and consumed in a correct and thrifty manner.

The problems concerned with comparing the norms and normatives (in terms of the quantity and structure of feed, ratio of nutrients and so forth) are deserving of serious examination. Important aspects of a study of the effectiveness of the feed base continue to be feed preparation and the mechanization of feed preparation and feed distribution. In connection with the party's designation of animal husbandry as an "important front for work," an increase is taking place in the requirements and need for improving the operational and precautionary information regarding the status of animal husbandry, the reasons for a reduction in the production of goods and in livestock productivity and on procurements and feed availability.

At the present time, a great role is being played by the private plots of citizens and the subsidiary farms of industrial, transport, construction and other enterprises and organizations. This in turn is advancing the task of improving statistical accounting for this problem and also methodology and analysis. Those factors which are delaying the development of production operations on farms of the population must be uncovered. Such important problems as expanding the integration of the public and private economies, the development and observance of contractual relationships between them and improvements in the system for organizing the production and procurements of products from the population occupy a special place in a statistical study of the development of the private plots.

In the near future it will be necessary to organize the collection and processing of statistical information on the subsidiary farms of industrial, construction, transport and other enterprises and organizations, from both a departmental and territorial standpoint.

In the decisions handed down during the May (1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, the plans call for improvements in the system of agricultural product procurements. Commencing 1 January 1983 the procurement prices for a number of products were raised and the plans now call for a considerable expansion in direct contacts between the kolkhozes and sovkhoses on the one hand and the trading and processing enterprises on the other and for a conversion to be carried out over to procuring farming and animal husbandry products directly in the areas where they are produced. In this regard, the procurement statistics should be studied further in connection with the quality of the products and the influence generated by this output on production efficiency. An analysis of negative phenomena in the development of direct contacts and in the acceptance of agricultural products in the production areas is deserving of serious attention.

An entire series of measures is being planned for strengthening the economies of farms, creating more favorable conditions for cost accounting activities of kolkhozes and sovkhoses and for intensifying the material interest of rural workers. A great amount of attention is being given to maintaining a close

link between wages and the final results and to introducing the brigade and collective contract systems and also the job contract plus bonus wage system. Plans have been outlined for strengthening the cadres of leaders, specialists, machine operators and livestock breeders in the rural areas.

All of this is raising the need for a more thorough study of the kolkhoz and sovkhoz economies, profits, expenditures and profitability. Further improvements are required in statistics and in the methodology for handling such problems as labor organization in agriculture, the use and employment of manpower, personnel turnover, wages and material interest. All of these problems must be examined in close association with the final production results -- the output of goods.

A most important task of the food program is that of reducing output losses. Tremendous quantities of products are being lost or used in an inefficient manner owing to a shortage of harvesting equipment, inefficient use of such equipment, insufficient storage capacities and capabilities for the processing of products, inadequate transport equipment and shortcomings in the organization of procurements, storage, transport operations, processing and sales. As a result, society is sustaining considerable material damage.

A statistical study of product losses is one of the chief trends in agricultural statistics. Moreover, it should be borne in mind that in addition to agricultural losses, additional losses are also occurring in other branches of the APk, for example in the processing of agricultural raw materials in the meat and dairy, groats, baking, milling, mixed feed and canning branches of industry. Considerable losses are also taking place during transport operations, at the procurement points, storehouses, bases, in trade and so forth. Thus a need exists for analyzing the extent of these losses and the reasons for their occurring in all branches of the agroindustrial complex.

The carrying out of all of these tasks will make it possible for the workers in state statistics to make a worthy contribution towards the successful implementation of the food program throughout the country.

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AGRO-ECONOMICS AND ORGANIZATION

OPERATION OF AGROINDUSTRIAL COMPLEX OUTLINED

Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 19, May 83 pp 1-8

[Text] The teaching supplements in the course "USSR Food Program" were published on the first, second, third, fourth and fifth topics in Nos 42 and 45 for 1982 and in Nos 2, 7 and 16 for 1983 of EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA, respectively. Below we publish material on the sixth topic "Improvement of Planning and Economic Incentives in the Agroindustrial Complex."

Improvement of Planning and Economic Incentives in the APK [Agroindustrial Complex]

Improvement of the economic mechanism of the APK occupies a sizable place in the system of measures aimed at successful performance of the tasks envisaged by the Food Program. It is well known that the potential for growth of production and for higher production efficiency is not realized automatically. Its use in practice depends in large part on the economic mechanism, on how conducive it is to development of the creative initiative of working collectives and the entire work force of the agroindustrial complex.

In his speech at a conference of first secretaries of the central committees of the communist parties of the union republics and of party kraykoms and obkoms Yu. V. Andropov said that agriculture is one of the important directions in the party's effort. The strategies of its further development were defined by the 26th CPSU Congress. The USSR Food Program was adopted at the May Plenum. Major and important decisions have been made. But they will not "operate" automatically. There is a need for a high level of organization and a straightforward system of planning and economic incentives in all units of the agroindustrial complex.

The Food Program--A Fundamentally New Step in Planning

One of the basic elements of the economic mechanism of the APK is planning as a most important economic lever of management.

Since the March (1965) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee an extensive system of measures has been carried out to improve the planning of agricultural

production and other branches of the APK. A number of indicators broken down among kolkhozes and sovkhozes from above has been considerably restricted, and their economic independence has been broadened. Measures have been taken at the same time to improve centralized planning. The USSR Constitution states that management of the country's economy shall be based on state plans of economic and social development.

It must be noted that centralized planning ensures stable conditions for the operation of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and all enterprises and organizations of the agroindustrial complex. It is above all the state plan for purchases of farm products that guarantees a market to farms. It is important to emphasize that the state guarantees the farms stable sale of products at prices set in advance. At the same time the state makes very large capital investments, which are beyond the capacity of individual enterprises: drainage and irrigation projects, power supply from state power systems, and other things.

Those matters which in the interest of society and the farms themselves are decided more effectively only on the scale of the entire national economy are at present regulated on a centralized basis.

On the basis of indicators which have been broken down the kolkhozes and sovkhozes independently draft plans and define strategies for the most effective organization of production. They foresee how much area is to be planted to each crop and how large a herd of each type of livestock is to be kept.

Since private subsidiary farming of kolkhoz members, workers and employees is playing an important role at the present time in production and supply of food to the public, the plans of kolkhozes and sovkhozes envisage measures to increase the output of farms in this category. To be specific, supplying feed for livestock, furnishing help in working areas around the homestead, supplying young livestock and materials for planting, etc.

Restricting the number of indicators assigned to kolkhozes and sovkhozes is not the only way in which their initiative in planning production is being broadened. The farms are also taking part in working out those plan indicators, which are then broken down to their level on a centralized basis.

On the basis of the planning target assigned to the rayon rayon agroindustrial associations determine the direct assignments of kolkhozes and sovkhozes for sales of farm products to the state, which are then approved by the rayon soviet of people's deputies.

Intrafarm planning has great importance to successful organization of production. Multiannual, annual and operational plans are drafted on kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

The multiannual plans are the orgkhozplan [organizational economic plan] and the 5-year plan. They outline the most expedient variant for development of all branches of the farm, its plant and equipment, the system of farming so as to take zonal peculiarities into account, the introduction of crop rotation and other soil and crop practices and zootechnical measures conducive to higher yield of farm crops and higher productivity of livestock and poultry.

The orgkhozplan is the basis for the 5-year plan, which in turn serves as the basis for annual production-and-financial plans of the farms. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes break down the annual production target by subdivisions. The operational plans are supposed to ensure more successful fulfillment of the annual plans of the farms and their subdivisions. They are drafted to cover periods of farming operations, quarters and months.

[Box, p 1]

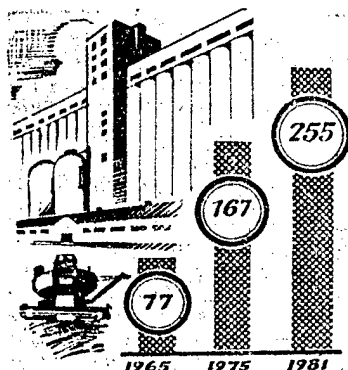
Planning Targets Which Are Broken Down by Kolkhozes and Sovkhozes

One of the principal planning indicators which is broken down to kolkhozes and sovkhozes is the volume of purchases of farm products. In addition, kolkhozes receive "limits" [in the sense of "allocations"] for material and technical supply, construction, and the volume of construction and installation work to be done by state construction contractors.

In addition to targets for the sale of produce to the state, sovkhozes are assigned the following:

- i. the annual wage fund;
- ii. maximum appropriations to maintain the management staff;
- iii. indicators for material and technical supply;
- iv. payments into the budget and appropriations from the budget;
- v. the volume of state capital investments, including construction and installation work, as well as the activation of fixed capital;
- vi. the plan for introduction of new technology and progressive processes.

Fixed Capital of Agriculture (at the end of the year; in 1973 comparable prices; billions of rubles)



Firm Purchases Plans

One of the most important directions for improvement in the planning of agricultural production is introducing the principle of firm plans for purchases of farm products. Previously they were assigned to kolkhozes and sovkhoses only to cover 1 year, and not uncommonly they were reviewed and modified without justification. It is clear that this undermined the farm's confidence in the realism of the measures they drafted and fettered their initiative.

Now a unified plan for purchases of farm products covering the 5-year period and broken down by years is broken down by kolkhozes and sovkhoses. The procedure for stimulating increased sales of farm products to the state has been radically altered.

Previously the farms were stimulated by the 50-percent supplement to the base purchase price for overfulfillment of the plan for sale of produce to the state. Not uncommonly this had the result that the managers and specialists of the farms strove to keep the sales plans low in order to obtain larger payments; it did not strive to seek out potential for a further growth of production.

Beginning in 1981 kolkhozes and sovkhoses have been paid a supplement (50 percent) to the price on products sold to the state over and above the actual average annual level in the 10th Five-Year Plan. A sizable portion of bonuses paid to managers and specialists of the farms as well as to workers and kol-khoz members are paid for the growth of output over the level achieved in the previous 3-5 years.

Now that agriculture's development is by and large being achieved through intensive factors, stimulation of a growth of output over and above the level achieved is one of the effective means guaranteeing a further growth of agricultural production and an improvement of its qualitative indicators.

Stimulating the farms to exceed the average annual level of sales of farm products to the state in the 10th Five-Year Plan is a fundamentally new incentive procedure. It orients the farms toward maximum output.

The Comprehensive Approach

The May (1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee envisaged measures aimed at further improvement of planning in agriculture and other branches of the agroindustrial complex. Particular attention was paid to ensuring comprehensiveness and internal consistency in planning.

The Food Program was an embodiment of the target and comprehensive approach to planning and management. Both agriculture itself and also the branches of industry, transportation, trade and others which serve it are now linked together into a single whole on behalf of a single ultimate goal--the fullest satisfaction of the needs of the country's population for food and of industry for raw materials.

Formation of new management entities--agroindustrial associations--is making it possible everywhere to make extensive use of comprehensive and target planning.

It is important to emphasize that when the comprehensive approach is widely applied in planning, it becomes possible to single out priority directions in the use of capital investments and physical resources and to achieve those structural changes in the system of the APK which are the most optimal in the current stage.

For example, in the 11th Five-Year Plan, when the total growth of capital investments for the APK as a whole is 9.6 percent over the 10th, plans call for increasing them by 79 percent in tractor and agricultural machinebuilding, 47 percent in machinebuilding for animal husbandry and fodder production, 44 percent in the microbiological industry, 40 percent in rural housing construction and 42 percent in road construction.

Important structural shifts are outlined in the current 5-year period in agriculture itself. For instance, given the 9.5-percent overall growth of capital investments relative to the 10th Five-Year Plan, the volume committed to fodder production and fodder preparation will increase 65 percent. It will become possible to substantially raise the level of intensification of this important branch. As a result the output of animal husbandry will increase.

We have enumerated here only certain examples of improvement of proportions among and within the branches of the agroindustrial complex. In every rayon, every oblast and republic they have their own tasks in improving the internal balance of individual entities of the APK. The task is to find in every specific case the most serious bottlenecks which are having an adverse influence on the growth of production and to take effective steps to eliminate them.

At the present time, when there has been a sharp growth in the scale of production and relations among sectors and branches have become more complicated, it has become still more important to strengthen discipline in carrying out orders and plans. Taking this into account, the November (1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee turned serious attention to enhancing discipline both in the fulfillment of plans and also in carrying out orders. It pointed first of all to the need to improve the balance of planning targets with their physical coverage, to prevent downward adjustment of plans, to organize astutely monitoring of progress in fulfillment of targets, and to enhance accountability of violators of planning discipline.

Within Kolkhozes and Sovkhozes

In the system of measures adopted by the party to improve planning much attention is being paid to expanding the independence of kolkhozes and sovkhozes and to developing their initiative. The party regards the effort in this area as a factor very important to successful fulfillment of the Food Program. In drafting the basic propositions and specific measures to expand the initiative of agricultural enterprises, the party is guided by the Leninist principle of democratic centralism.

But, as noted in party documents, the practice of excessive regulation of the activity of kolkhozes and sovkhoses has become widespread in a number of rayons. Aside from the indicators assigned to them by the plan, numerous targets are passed down to them from above for the area planting, the number of head of livestock, deadlines and methods for performance of certain farming operations. This practice does great economic harm and is detrimental to morale. It does not afford the possibility of selecting the most effective variants for use of the resources available so as to take into account the specific conditions, nor does it help to develop the creative activity of farmworkers and to training them as zealous farmers with initiative.

The practice of excessive administration and petty interference with kolkhozes and sovkhoses was condemned at the May (1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. It was emphasized that everyone must be prohibited, no matter who, from requiring them to fulfill any sort of targets not envisaged by the state plan, from requesting information aside from the established state reporting. This rule should be adhered to strictly at all levels, and no exceptions whatsoever should be made to it.

The task is to consistently implement the decisions taken earlier concerning the problems of planning in agriculture.

The volume of production of farm products in rayons, oblasts and republics should be arrived at on the basis of the plans of kolkhozes, sovkhoses and other agricultural enterprises, proceeding from the need to guarantee unconditional fulfillment of the assigned targets for state purchases.

One could give quite a few examples demonstrating the high responsibility of kolkhozes and sovkhoses in planning production so as to guarantee unswerving fulfillment of state targets for sale of products of cropping and animal husbandry.

Take, for example, the Kolkhoz "Put' k Kommunizmu" in Kuznetskiy Rayon of Penza Oblast. Measures are worked out on the farm whose fulfillment will make it possible to increase the production of products from both cropping and animal husbandry every year. In the 11th Five-Year Plan the average annual grain harvest per hectare is set at least 32 quintals. In the next 5-year period the effort to increase the yield will be continued so that the grain harvest is brought up to 35-37 quintals per hectare.

Animal husbandry will also be developing intensively. Particular attention is being paid here to developing a solid fodder base. In 1983 milk production per dairy cow is to be increased to 200 kg. The farm's stockmen have given their word that they will bring milk production per dairy cow up to 4,000 kg by the end of the 11th 5-year period.

The effort to increase the productivity of the herd is being combined with a persistent fight to improve the quality of dairy products. Workers on livestock farms have a financial interest in this. In 1982 98 percent of the milk the kolkhoz delivered to the milk processing plant was first grade and 90 percent was cooled. In the current year all the milk sold is to be first grade.

The measures outlined and carried out by the kolkhoz are making it possible during the current 5-year period to increase the production of milk to 25,000 quintals with the same number of dairy cows.

At the same time the swine farm is undergoing reconstruction and a new one is being built. A swine-raising complex will be built with a closed swine production cycle. The fattening of hogs will be increased to 12,000 head per year. This will make it possible in the 11th Five-Year Plan to sell 15,000 more quintals of pork than in the previous 5-year period.

[Box, p 3]

The Country's Sovkhozes

Sovkhozes are large socialist state enterprises in the agriculture of the USSR. At the beginning of 1983 the country had 22,000 sovkhozes.

The average annual work force employed in all economic branches of sovkhozes was 11.8 million, 9.9 million of them in agriculture.

The entire area of sovkhozes planted was 110.4 million hectares, or more than 51 percent of total planting in the country. They account for 47 percent of total marketed output of agriculture.

Sovkhoz Averages in 1981

Farmland, in thousands of hectares	16.6
Area planted, in thousands of hectares	5.2
Herds on livestock farms:	
Cattle:	1,867
Dairy cows alone	626
Swine	1,118
Sheep and goats	3,177
Tractors	56

Economic Levers and Incentives

The economic mechanism, which includes a system of levers for exerting an influence on production in the necessary direction and the appropriate economic conditions for its development are ensured, is a most important part of the conduct of economic activity in the agroindustrial complex. It includes the purchase prices of farm products and the wholesale prices of means of production and other products delivered to agriculture and other branches of the APK; the entire cost-accounting (khozraschet) system; rates for services rendered to kolkhozes and sovkhozes by organizations serving them; relationships between agriculture and other branches of the APK; the system of credit and distribution of profit; remuneration of labor and financial incentives in all entities of the agroindustrial complex. Bolstering plant and equipment and improving the conditions for product sales play an important role.

Improvement of economic levers is aimed at giving workers and collectives of enterprises in all spheres of the APK an interest in augmenting production of products which society needs, in increasing production efficiency, and also in satisfying their own needs.

By means of economic levers higher-level authorities put pressure on kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other enterprises and organizations of the APK, ensuring stable conditions for their development. Economic methods cannot be set in opposition to organizational and administrative methods, which represent a direct and directive influence which higher-level authorities exert on kolkhozes and sovkhozes and enterprises of other spheres of the APK.

We should note that organizational and administrative methods and administrativeness are not one and the same thing. Direct and directive pressure on enterprises arises out of the need for centralized management of agriculture and the other branches of the APK. It is important to organize the directive pressure correctly, on a scientific basis. It ought to be based on regulation of economic conditions ensuring that the interests of society and of the enterprises are unified. Unless administrative influence on kolkhozes and sovkhozes is combined with the necessary conditions and incentives, it becomes administrativeness.

Recently much has been done to improve the economic mechanism in the system of the agroindustrial complex and to regulate agriculture's relations with the kindred branches of the APK. Purchase prices have been raised, price relations of individual farm products and also from one region of the country to another have been improved.

Along with the economic measures there have been ever larger deliveries of physical resources destined for kolkhozes and sovkhozes. The plant and equipment of agriculture and the other branches of the APK have been bolstered. And, as Yu. V. Andropov emphasized at a conference in the CPSU Central Committee on 18 April 1983, use of the plant and equipment built in rural areas needs to be decisively improved. References are frequently made to the shortage of tractors, combines and other machines. It is, of course, true that kolkhozes and sovkhozes have not been given everything they need. But at the same time what has been done should not be played down. Since the March Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee fixed capital in agriculture has increased fourfold, the power per worker and deliveries of manufactured fertilizers have more than tripled, and the area of improved land has grown 1.7-fold.

Recently a decree of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers was adopted in which a major program is outlined for future supply of highly productive new equipment to kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

But even that plant and equipment which they have afford the possibility of achieving considerably better results in agriculture than at present. This is convincingly indicated by the experience of the progressive kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other enterprises of the APK.

Relationships Among All Entities in the APK

In recent years, as has already been stated in the previous installments, the process of more detailed social division of labor in the system of the APK has become more intensive. Because of departmental separateness the enterprises and organizations serving agriculture have turned out to have extremely weak links to the operation of kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

Evaluation of performance and motivation of organizations serving agriculture have in essence not been related to the results of work, to the state of production in the kolkhozes and sovkhozes they serve, that is, to the final results.

The May (1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, which thoroughly and comprehensively analyzed the mechanism for the conduct of economic activity in effect and took into account its growing role in carrying out the Food Program, outlined a broad system of measures for radical improvement and increased effectiveness of the economic mechanism both in agriculture itself and also in the other branches of the agroindustrial complex. Main attention was paid to ensuring stable economic conditions for development of sovkhozes and kolkhozes, which are the foundation of agricultural production. It is especially important to strengthen cost accounting, to create real opportunities for kolkhozes and sovkhozes to carry on expanded reproduction, and to apply widely the know-how of the country's progressive collectives in the effective conduct of economic activity.

The goals and tasks in improving the economic mechanism of the agroindustrial complex have been clearly stated in the Food Program: "Develop in every way the economic initiative and social enterprise of kolkhozes, sovkhozes and all other enterprises and organizations of the agroindustrial complex, stimulate collectives to increase output and to make economical use of physical resources. Orient their effort not toward intermediate indicators, but toward a high final result. Do not allow petty interference with kolkhozes and sovkhozes."

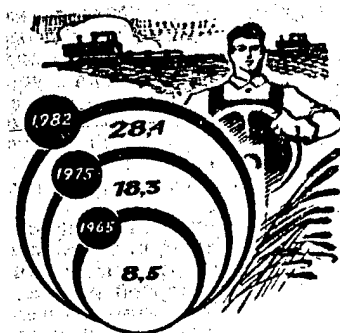
In the present stage it is very important in improving the economic mechanism to establish sound relations between agriculture and the other branches of the agroindustrial complex and to bend their activity toward high final results.

To be specific, the procedure in effect for awarding bonuses to supervisory personnel and specialists of rayon enterprises and organizations of USSR Goskomselkhoztekhnika [State Committee for Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture], Soyuzselkhozkhimiya [All-Union Scientific-Production Association for Rendering Agrochemical Services to Agriculture], water management operations organizations of USSR Minvodkhoz [Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources], and other organizations and enterprises which are part of agroindustrial associations.

Now these personnel will be awarded bonuses according to the results for the year in increasing the production of farm products and the growth of profit in the kolkhozes and sovkhozes they serve as compared to the level attained in

the previous 5 years. Beginning with the current years these categories of personnel will be awarded bonuses for fulfillment of contractual obligations and optimum use of resources. Moreover, the size of bonuses awarded in the current bonus system must not exceed 1.5 months' salary in any one year.

Power per Worker in Agriculture (power capacity per worker in horsepower)



In evaluating the performance, in the building up of economic incentive funds and in the awarding of bonuses to supervisory personnel and specialists of procurement enterprises and organizations fulfillment of the procurements plan is one of the principal indicators.

Proposals on the following are being drafted by the relevant ministries and departments: improvement of agriculture's relations with other branches in order to ensure stable conditions for expanded reproduction in kolkhozes and sovkhozes; changing the present procedure governing the planning and use of the profit of enterprises and organizations serving agriculture, and their relations with the budget.

The aim is to improve the financial accountability of enterprises and organizations serving agriculture for the quality and completion times of the jobs they do and services they perform. Provision has also been made to strengthen the motivation of enterprises and organizations to achieve the highest final results in the production of farm products.

Performance of these measures is expected to guarantee stable conditions for strengthening cost accounting in kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

Raising Purchase Prices

The May Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee deemed it advisable to raise purchase prices of farm products and to introduce supplements to purchase prices on products sold by kolkhozes and sovkhozes operating at low profit or at a loss in the sum total of 16 billion rubles (on an annual basis) in order to strengthen cost accounting, to achieve high rates of expanded reproduction on kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other state agricultural enterprises, thereby strengthening their financial motivation to increase production and improve the quality of farm products.

Beginning in January 1983 purchase prices were raised for cattle, swine, sheep, milk, grain, sugar beets, potatoes, vegetables and other products.

A portion of the funds referred to have been earmarked for payment of supplements to purchase prices on products sold to the state by kolkhozes and sovkhoses operating at low profit or at a loss. The introduction of such supplements is a powerful means of equalizing the economic condition of farms which have unequal natural and economic conditions. Plans call for allocating from those 16 billion rubles 9.8 billion rubles to pay supplements to purchase prices for products sold to the state by kolkhozes and sovkhoses operating at low profit or at a loss and 6.2 billion rubles directly to raise purchase prices.

This distribution of the funds allocated is the best way of equalizing the economic condition of farms. For instance, the level of profitability of agricultural production on kolkhozes and sovkhoses operating at a loss is to be raised from -26 percent in 1980 to +10-12 percent.

Along with raising purchase prices for certain products, conditions have been created for solving the problem of equalizing the profitability of agricultural production from one union republic to another. Purchase prices of particular products of cropping and animal husbandry have been equalized or brought as close as possible together in neighboring republics which have approximately the same natural and economic conditions.

Provision has also been made to equalize the level of profitability between the products of cropping and those of animal husbandry. In recent years certain products of animal husbandry have been produced at a loss in most republics and oblasts. This has had an adverse effect on growth of their production. That is why more than 70 percent of the total amount of funds allocated to raise purchase prices and introduce supplements to them has been committed to stimulating the production of products of animal husbandry.

Taking into account that accelerating the rates of development of animal husbandry depends on the growth rates of production of cropping, provision has been made to guarantee a higher level of profitability of the products of cropping.

Particular attention has been paid to stimulating grain production as the basis of all agriculture. Much attention is being paid to increasing the production of fodder and whole grain crops. Whereas the average purchase prices for grain have been raised 10 percent, for feed barley and oats they have been raised 20, for buckwheat 21, and for millet 36 percent.

Other purchase prices have also been raised: raw cotton (here the funds are committed above all to improving product quality and stimulating the production of highly valuable varieties), sugar beets, sunflowers and other products.

Councils of ministers of union republics not divided into oblasts, oblistpolkoms and krayispolkoms approve lists of sovkhoses and kolkhozes operating at low profit or at a loss on the representation of councils of rayon agroindustrial associations and within the limits of the allocations determine the size

of the supplements to wholesale prices for products which those farms sell to the state. The maximum size of the supplement may not exceed 75 percent of the purchase price. The supplements are paid by procurement organizations.

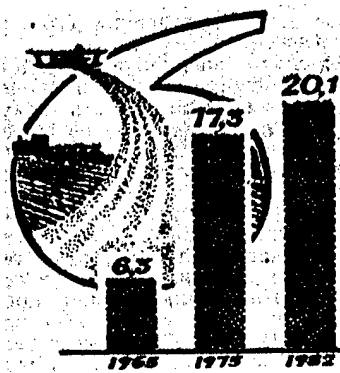
Kolkhozes and sovkhoses have been issued a recommendation to commit their supplemental income from the higher purchase prices and introduction of supplements to them primarily to development of agricultural production.

Improvement of Other Economic Levers

Improvement of other economic levers has great importance to ensuring kolkhozes and sovkhoses the conditions for cost accounting. Kolkhozes which have inadequate capital will be allocated 3.3 billion rubles annually to build housing, children's preschool institutions, educational establishments, clubs and other facilities for cultural and consumer services, as well as for on-farm roads, to pay insurance premiums, etc.

Improvement of the income tax system is also conducive to reinforcement of cost accounting. It has been deemed advisable to exempt from payment of the income tax those farms whose profitability is below 25 percent. The income tax was applied to net income at the rate of 0.3 percent for each percentage point of profitability over 25 percent. It has now been deemed advisable to differentiate the rates of the income tax. They are as follows: when profitability is between 25 and 30 percent--0.1 percent of net income for each percentage point of profitability over 25 percent; at a profitability between 30 and 40 percent--0.2 percent, at a profitability of 40-50 percent, 0.4 percent, and at a profitability higher than 50 percent--0.5 percent, but not to exceed 25 percent of taxable net income.

Delivery of Manufactured Fertilizers to Agriculture (converted to 100-percent nutrients; millions of tons)



The same procedure of payments into the budget on transfers from profit have been extended to sovkhoses. The charge on productive capital has been abolished. The system which has been introduced of collection of the income tax and of payment which sovkhoses make to the budget from profit is to a certain degree complementing the differentiation of purchase prices.

Indebtedness on loans to USSR Gosbank for which extensions have previously been granted have been written off in the amount of 9.7 billion rubles for kolkhozes and sovkhozes operating at low profitability and at a loss, and a 10-year extension has been granted on credits which could not be repaid in the amount of more than 11 billion rubles.

Possibilities of Profitable Production

Raising the purchases prices of farm products, introducing the supplements to those prices, and also application of other levers are exceedingly important economic measures. They are creating a fundamentally new economic situation in rural areas.

Now the conditions have been created for practically all kolkhozes and sovkhozes to achieve reimbursement of production costs if they conduct their production efficiently. In other words, every possibility has been created for broad introduction of cost accounting, for profitable production, and for strengthened economic condition. All of this sets fundamentally new requirements on managers and specialists of kolkhozes and sovkhozes and all enterprises and organizations of the agroindustrial complex. Competition for profitable production of every product should become widespread.

In order to increase its output and solve social problems more effectively every enterprise must make its expenditures by and large from its own income. This, of course, requires economical expenditure of resources, highly productive use of the entire production potential, achievement of the necessary accumulation by virtue of larger production, and higher production efficiency.

Widespread introduction of cost accounting and an economy regime with respect to all resources must be the main thing in the operation of every entity in the agroindustrial complex. Along with the growth of production and sale of products to the state, these indicators are now taking on extremely great importance.

As noted at the conference in the CPSU Central Committee of first secretaries of the central committees of the communist parties of the union republics, krais and oblasts on 18 April 1983, the new management entities--agroindustrial associations--are being given a large role in performing the tasks arising out of the decisions of the May Plenum and the Food Program. The party committees must see that the new entities take on strength more quickly in rural areas. It is very important to help them from the very outset in selecting the right direction of their activity and tackling in a businesslike way the basic problems in development of agriculture and the agroindustrial complex as a whole. By guaranteeing smooth operation and coordination of the actions of all enterprises and organizations related to agriculture, it was noted at the conference in the CPSU Central Committee, the associations must support and stimulate useful initiatives and enterprise of kolkhozes and sovkhozes. The commission of the Presidium of the USSR Council of Ministers for the affairs of the agroindustrial complex and the Ministry of Agriculture are to organize a systematic effort to study, summarize and disseminate the working experience of agroindustrial associations.

The problems of kolkhoz and sovkhos production and all management decisions must be based on strict economic calculation, optimum and thrifty use of internal and allocated resources must be guaranteed, and a high benefit must accrue. To that end there is a need to invigorate the work of economic analysis bureaus on kolkhozes, conferences always in session on kolkhozes and sovkhos, and balance commissions in rayons.

It is important that the councils of RAPO's [rayon agroindustrial association] gain an understanding of every farm and enterprise and each of their subdivisions, thoroughly analyze their production and financial activity, identify bottlenecks and causes of losses, and determine in which stage there is a shortfall of output, where losses are occurring, and where unproductive costs are being incurred.

Kolkhozes and sovkhos operating at a loss and low profitability need particular attention. It is very important to draft and consistently implement in every such farm specific measures aimed at the growth of production of farm products and their sale to the state, development of plant and equipment, the hiring of qualified personnel, reduction of costs and improvement of production efficiency. It is best to revise and correct these measures annually. That is, do everything necessary so that these farms become profitable and highly profitable by the end of the 5-year period and so that their economic condition is strengthened.

Along with strengthening cost accounting, much attention in improvement of the economic mechanism is being paid to strengthening the financial motivation of the work force of kolkhozes and sovkhos.

[Box, p 6]

Interfarm Enterprises and Organizations

Various interfarm formations both productive in nature and also to serve agriculture are operating in rural areas at the present time. At the beginning of 1983 there were in all more than 9,700 interfarm enterprises, organizations and associations, including 1,726 enterprises for production of farm products, 2,724 to serve agricultural production, 2,899 construction and installation organizations, including enterprises for construction of roads and irrigation and drainage structures, and 2,312 other enterprises and organizations.

The latter group of interfarm enterprises and organizations includes enterprises for the production of building materials, project planning organizations, timber establishments, mills for the production of complete feeds, feed mixtures and feed additives, plants for processing farm products, and facilities providing cultural and consumer services.

Interfarm livestock-raising enterprises have taken over from farms with which they cooperate 1.64 million head of cattle and 2,095,000 swine for fattening. In all, they have sold cattle with a live weight of 589,000 tons and swine with a weight of 381,000 tons. The weight gain of cattle has been 266,400 tons and that of swine 320,300 tons.

Principal Indicators of Development of Interfarm Enterprises (excepting construction organizations) for 1981

Fixed capital (at the end of the year), millions of rubles	8,527.5
Fixed productive capital for farming purposes (excluding livestock) alone	6,029.7
Average annual work force, thousands of persons	788.8
Workers employed in farming alone	444.0
Profit earned, millions of rubles	458.8

Improvement of the Financial Incentives of the Work Force

Financial and nonfinancial work incentives of the labor force of agriculture are an integral part of the economic mechanism. Improvement of remuneration plays an important role in strengthening the financial motivation of farmworkers.

Both the specific nature of the branch and also the peculiarities of the kolkhoz cooperative form of ownership are taken into account in improvement of the financial rewards for work in agriculture. In recent years a considerable effort has been made to regulate remuneration and to strengthen the financial motivation of the work force of kolkhozes and sovkhozes. As is well known, for a long time the fund for remuneration of labor on kolkhozes was built up on the "remainder" principle, and payment was not guaranteed.

Reinforcement of the economic condition of kolkhozes and the growth of their income have made it possible on all farms to introduce guaranteed remuneration of kolkhoz members at the level of the corresponding categories of sovkhoz workers.

Guaranteed remuneration has become an important measure for enhancing the motivation of farmworkers to develop social production. At the present time it is in effect on practically all kolkhozes.

Much has been done to improve remuneration of the labor force of sovkhozes, machine operators and stockmen above all. The labor force of sovkhozes on which the transition has been made to the conditions of full cost accounting receives not only bonuses from the wage fund, but also incentives paid from the material incentive fund.

The party and government have envisaged measures to motivate agricultural specialists to make the transition to work as managers of departments, work teams, livestock farms and other subdivisions at the middle level on kolkhozes and sovkhozes. These financial incentives for sovkhoz workers have also been recommended for kolkhozes.

As already noted, the basic principles governing organization of remuneration on sovkhozes are being applied more and more in kolkhoz production. For example, it has been recommended that the kolkhozes establish output quotas and livestock allocation norms that apply to sovkhozes and also put into effect the rates scales and rates in effect on sovkhozes.

On the Basis of the End Results

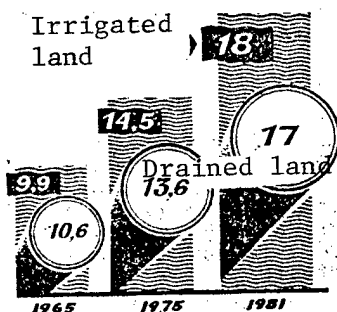
Measures to improve financial motivation are making it possible to link remuneration more closely to the end results of work, to the quantity and quality of products produced. On a number of farms a progressive bonus scale is being applied in the incentive system.

For example, on the Kolkhoz imeni Kirov in Kherson Oblast scales have been compiled on the basis of yield (productivity) and additional payment made at unit prices for the principal crops and for products in animal husbandry. These scales and unit rates increase progressively depending on the amount by which the yield or productivity of livestock has been increased. They are stable over the 5-year period. There is no desire to set plans at a low level in this system. The new bonus system for managers and specialists of agricultural enterprises introduced by the decree of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers entitled "On Improvement of Planning and Economic Stimulation of Production and Procurements of Farm Products," is playing a large role in this regard. Now bonuses will be credited to them for the growth of the volume of sales (production) and profit by comparison with the average annual level achieved in the previous 5 years, and also for the profit earned. Other forms of material incentives have also been envisaged. The awarding of bonuses to managers and specialists has thereby taken on the same orientation as the stimulation furnished through the purchase prices.

New problems are now arising in connection with improvement of remuneration and financial incentives. Closer linkage of financial incentives with the end results, orientation of remuneration and incentives toward intensification of production and fuller use of the productive and economic potential represent the main task. The new forms of organization of work and remuneration, which have become widespread recently are conducive to this: work teams and units operating without job orders on the principle of the collective contract. The experience with the principle of the collective contract has been approved by the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and recommended for widespread introduction.

In production subdivisions operating on the principle of the collective contract the personal interests of the workers have been successfully combined with the interests of the farm as a whole.

Area of Improved (Drained and Irrigated) Land, millions of hectares



Subdivisions of this kind created in many regions of the country have achieved high labor efficiency. Here is an example. For a long time the fifth work team on the Kolkhoz imeni M. Gor'kiy in Nikopolskiy Rayon of Dnepropetrovsk Oblast was the lagging work team on the farm. People and equipment were sent there to help, but the necessary result was not achieved. After analyzing the work team's production activity, the kolkhoz board decided to gradually begin to introduce within it work teams without job orders. Everything in the work team was organized in 11 such units.

As a consequence the work team began to yield more output with a smaller number of workers and to cope successfully with its production targets.

We should emphasize that use of the collective contract is not only a means of increasing the volume of production and of raising production efficiency, but it is also a most important condition for strengthening cost accounting, for enhancing the work activity of the workers, for strengthening work discipline, and for making workers and kolkhozes more aware.

In recent years more attention has begun to be paid locally to introduction of work teams and units without job orders. Their number has increased. But the form of organization of work without the job order is being introduced slowly at present.

The May Plenum of the Central Committee paid serious attention to the need for broad introduction of the collective contract at the present time and took a number of steps aimed at imparting to farmworkers a greater interest in having it spread everywhere.

Sovkhoz directors have now been allowed to establish unit prices for output on the basis of production quotas for purposes of remuneration of members of work teams and units operating on a collective contract. The production quota means a normed assignment given to the work teams and units on each farm on the basis of the level of the yield achieved in the previous 5 years. The production quota may be revised only if there is a substantial change in the technology or other conditions. This procedure for determining the unit prices for the product has been in effect in animal husbandry since 1970 and has given a quite good account of itself. Previously the unit prices for remuneration of workers employed in cropping were set on the basis of the annual production plan. In that situation when the planned yields were increased the unit prices for output, often even when the conditions of production remained unchanged, dropped and were annually revised, which eliminated an interest in increasing the yield and aroused justified objections by the workers.

Farm managers have also been extended the the right to raise the wage rates up to 150 percent. Until recently members of work teams and units operating under a collective contract were remunerated out of the unit price per quintal (unit) of the product, which was set on the basis of 125 percent of the wage fund based on the rate schedule. And only when certain crops were raised were the unit prices based on 150 percent of the wage fund determined from the rate schedules.

Managers of sovkhozes and other state agricultural enterprises can pool the funds envisaged by the regulations in effect for remuneration, including the supplemental payment for output and high-quality work, and also bonuses, for establishing progressively increasing unit prices for output. They did not previously have that right. The base pay and all types of supplements and bonuses were computed and paid separately.

Progressively increasing unit prices mean larger payment per unit of output as the yield increases in the work team or unit. Under the procedure in effect until recently, when the yield increased, the unit price per unit output as a rule decreased.

By Virtue of a Saving on the Wage Fund

Managers of state agricultural enterprises have been granted the right to make extensive use of the saving on the wage fund to increase remuneration of workers who have achieved high results. For instance, for combining occupations and fulfilling an establishment amount of work with fewer workers workers may be given a supplement amounting to up to 50 percent of the wage rate (salary). Engineering and technical personnel and employees may receive a supplement to the rate (salary) up to 50 percent for high qualifications.

Quite a bit has been done to unleash the initiative of farms and the financial motivation of people in the transition to progressive forms of the organization of work and remuneration. The thing now is to make skillful use of those opportunities so that they are widely introduced in the branches of the agro-industrial complex.

Important measures to improve remuneration and financial incentives have been provided for in the decrees entitled "On Measures To Strengthen the Financial Motivation of Agricultural Workers To Increase Output and Improve Product Quality" and "On Additional Measures To Stabilize on Kolkhozes, Sovkhozes and Other Agricultural Enterprises Personnel Employed in Animal Husbandry."

Great importance is being attributed to the use of financial incentives to stabilize personnel in animal husbandry. To that end the procedure and conditions for payment of supplements to wages for continuous service on a given farm, which have been established by current legislation for tractor drivers and machine operators of the relevant zone, have been extended to workers employed in animal husbandry.

[Box, p 8]

The Country's Kolkhozes

As a social form of the socialist farm the kolkhoz is fully suited to the tasks of further development of the productive forces in rural areas in the context of advanced socialism.

The annual average number of kolkhoz members employed on the socialized landholding is 13 million. The total number of indivisible funds of kolkhozes in

fixed and working capital is equal to 117.4 billion rubles. The gross income of kolkhozes in 1982 was 21.3 billion rubles.

In all, kolkhoz members were paid money and produce for their labor on the socialized farm in the amount of 19.7 billion rubles in 1981. Remuneration per man-day was 5.84 rubles.

Averages per Kolkhoz (excepting fishing kolkhozes)

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1982</u>
Number of households belonging to the kolkhoz	426	485
Farmland (thousands of hectares)	6.1	6.5
Indivisible funds in fixed and working capital (thousands of rubles)	1,166	4,526
Gross income (thousands of rubles)	494	822
Livestock in the socialized farming operation (number of head):		
Cattle	1,056	1,853
Dairy cows alone	363	619
Swine	667	1,086
Sheep and goats	1,506	1,699
Tractors	21	41

Incentives for Managers and Specialists

In order to solve more quickly the tasks of efficient use of land and the production potential in rural areas, Yu. V. Andropov said at the conference of secretaries of the central committees of the communist parties of the union republics, kraykoms and obkoms, kolkhozes and sovkhoses need to be guaranteed permanent personnel on a priority basis. This is not a simple task. It means building considerably more housing, schools, vocational and technical schools and other facilities providing cultural and consumer services. Huge capital investments have been made for this purpose, the right has been granted to city construction organizations to become involved in rural construction. The entire matter depends on the initiative of local authorities, on their ability to organize the practical effort.

Measures have also been provided for managers and specialists to improve their remuneration and to encourage them to make the move from administrative agencies to work in kolkhozes and sovkhoses. The salaries of supervisory personnel, specialists and employees of sovkhoses have been raised by an average 30 percent. Specialists moving from administrative agencies to kolkhozes and sovkhoses retain for 3 years (for 5 years if they move to farms operating at low profitability or at a loss) the average monthly earnings which they received in their previous job if it was higher than the salary assigned to the new job. They are also paid lump-sum benefits amounting to between three and five monthly salary payments. Supplemental benefits have also been introduced for young specialists.

Broader use of remuneration in kind is playing an important role in improving incentives. Its importance turned out to be diminished after guaranteed money remuneration was introduced. Remuneration in kind is a most important source for creating stocks of fodder for livestock in the private farming operation. This is especially important now when much attention is being paid to development of private subsidiary farming. In addition to the procedure in effect, farm managers have now been granted the following prerogatives:

- i. to issue grain without payment to workers of work teams and units employed in raising grain crops up to 15 percent of the gross harvest of the work team (unit) over and above the plan;
- ii. to issue in lieu of wages to workers of farms and also to individuals enlisted to harvest the crop and to take part in farm work grain up to 1.5 kg per quota-shift work;
- iii. to issue in lieu of wages to farmworkers and also to individuals taking part in raising and harvesting potatoes, vegetables, fruit, berries, grapes, melons and feed crops produce up to 15 percent of the amount planned and, at the discretion of the farm manager, in an amount not to exceed 30 percent of the above-plan gross harvest of the relevant product.

These measures will help to strengthen the financial motivation of all workers to increase output, to harvest the crop properly, and to ensure preservation and optimum use of farm products.

Comprehensive improvement of the economic mechanism in the agroindustrial complex will be conducive to increasing the production of foodstuffs and to successful performance of the Food Program.

Special supplements have been published in EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA, Nos 14, 15 and 17, covering the experience of production subdivisions of farms operating under the conditions of the collective contract.

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AGRO-ECONOMICS AND ORGANIZATION

NEW INCREASE IN PROCUREMENT PRICES DISCUSSED

Moscow ZAKUPKI SEL'SKOKHOZYAYSTVENNYKH PRODUKTOV in Russian No 6, Jun 83 pp 33-35

/Article by V. Parshin, chief methodologist for the Financial Administration of the USSR Ministry of Procurements: "New Procurement Prices"/

/Text/ Early this year, in the interest of strengthening the economies of farms and raising their material interest in increasing the production and sale of food products to the state and also in successfully implementing the food program, the procurement prices were raised for grain crops, sugar beets, potatoes, large-horned cattle, hogs, sheep, milk and other products sold to the state by kolkhozes, sovkhoses and other agricultural enterprises and organizations and also by the population. Bonuses were introduced for adding on to the procurement prices for agricultural products sold to the state by low profitability and unprofitable kolkhozes and sovkhoses. The expenses of the state for the mentioned purposes amount to 16 billion rubles annually.

The total amount of the increase in procurement prices for grain crops, based upon the planned procurement volumes for 1982, was computed as being more than 1 billion rubles, or approximately 11 percent of the procurement prices which prevailed prior to 1 January 1983. The procurement prices for soft wheat were raised in the RSFSR from 100 to 105 rubles, Ukrainian SSR -- from 92 to 97, Kazakh SSR -- from 94 to 105, Uzbek SSR, Tadzhik SSR, Turkmen SSR -- from 104 to 109, Georgian SSR, Azerbaijan SSR, Armenian SSR -- from 115 to 120 and Moldavian SSR -- from 90 to 95 rubles per ton of grain of basic condition.

The procurement prices for rye were raised by 10 rubles per ton for the RSFSR, Ukrainian, Belorussian, Kazakh, Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian Union Republics. For the remaining republics, the increase in prices amounted to 5 rubles per ton. The procurement prices for feed barley and oats were raised considerably: for the RSFSR they were increased from 89 to 105 rubles, Ukrainian SSR -- from 69 to 92, Belorussian SSR -- from 110 to 130, Uzbek SSR, Tadzhik SSR and Turkmen SSR -- from 65 to 104, Moldavian SSR -- from 65 to 90, Kazakh SSR and Kirghiz SSR -- from 72 to 100, Georgian SSR, Azerbaijan SSR and Armenian SSR -- from 75 to 115 and the Lithuanian SSR, Latvian SSR and Estonian SSR -- from 110 to 130 rubles per ton of feed barley and oats of basic condition.

The procurement prices which were in effect in all areas for all types of corn were also raised -- by 30 rubles (for example, for dent, semi-dent and semi-

flint corn -- from 90 to 120 rubles per ton), buckwheat by 70 rubles (from 330 to 400 rubles), rice -- by 20 rubles (from 300 rubles to 320 rubles per ton, with the exception of the Maritime Kray, where the prices for rice have been raised from 350 to 370 rubles), millet of the more valuable varieties -- by 40 rubles (from 160 to 200), common millet -- by 40 rubles (from 110 to 150), soybeans -- by 50 rubles (from 350 to 400) and mustard -- by 50 rubles (from 250 to 300).

For sunflowers, a procurement price of 230 rubles per ton of oil-bearing seed (in all areas) has been established.

Special emphasis should be placed upon the fact that the mentioned increase in procurement prices for grain and oil-bearing crops will increase the income of kolkhozes and sovkhoses, since a 50 percent bonus for the sale to the state of grain and oil-bearing seed over and above the average level achieved during the 10th Five-Year Plan will be added on to these raised procurement prices for the farms.

Since 1 January of this year, the procurement prices for products sold to the state by kolkhozes, sovkhoses and other agricultural enterprises, organizations and the population have been raised: wool by an average of 12 percent, goat down -- by 30, rawhide, furs and sheepskins, fur raw materials and industrial furs -- by 100 percent, farm-raised mink -- by 10 percent, farm-raised fox pelts -- by 20, the horns of young Siberian stags and punctate deer -- by 30 percent and intestinal and rennet raw materials -- by 50 percent.

The procurement prices for vegetables, fruit, table grapes and dried fruit have also been raised.

On 24 December 1982, the USSR Ministry of Finances, the USSR Ministry of Agriculture and the USSR Ministry of the Fruit and Vegetable Industry, by agreement with the USSR State Price Committee, USSR Gosbank and the USSR State Statistical Administration approved an instruction on the system for determining the payments and computing the bonuses for adding on to the procurement prices, for agricultural products sold to the state by low-profitability and unprofitable kolkhozes and sovkhoses. The instruction established the conditions for designating kolkhozes and sovkhoses as being low-profitability or unprofitable farms, which consist mainly of the following. The list of low-profitability and unprofitable farms which are to be paid bonuses for adding on to the procurement prices for products sold to the state includes kolkhozes, sovkhoses and other state and inter-farm agricultural enterprises (regardless of departmental subordination) which operate under poor natural-economic conditions, which sell agricultural products to the state in conformity with the plans for economic and social development and which have a total profitability as a rule of not more than 10 percent.

Here the total profitability is computed as the ratio of the profit balance (net income) to the production costs for the products sold. In some instances the list of low-profitability and unprofitable farms can include kolkhozes or sovkhoses which have a total profitability that is higher than the mentioned level, but which cannot ensure the repayment of USSR Gosbank credits using internal funds, the financing of capital investments and other planned

measures and which have low amounts of fixed capital and limited profits (net income) and also newly organized farms having a planned profitability of less than 10 percent.

The list of low profitability and unprofitable farms can be expanded also in those instances where, based upon a decision handed down by a union republic council of ministers, for individual oblasts, krays and autonomous republics which are distinguished on the whole by a high level of production development and economic conditions, the total profitability of low profitability and unprofitable farms is raised to a higher level, by means of bonuses added on to the procurement prices, than that called for on the average for a union republic.

As a rule, the list of low-profitability and unprofitable farms does not include poultry factories, wild animal rearing state farms or sovkhozes, which have in their structure large-scale state livestock complexes for the fattening of large-horned cattle and hogs that are supplied with concentrated feed from state resources and have hothouse combines. When adding farms to the list of low-profitability and unprofitable farms, other objective peculiarities can also be taken into consideration.

The inclusion of farms on the list of low-profitability and unprofitable ones is carried out based upon the indicator for computed total profitability, determined taking into account the changes in the level of production expenditures and procurement prices.

A rayon agroindustrial association, based upon data for the computed total profitability for farms included in the structure of the rayon association, submits proposals to the committee of the presidium of the union republic council of ministers (not having an oblast subdivision) on problems concerned with the agroindustrial complex and to the oblast, kray and republic (ASSR) agroindustrial association with regard to the inclusion of low-profitability and unprofitable farms from this rayon on the list, farms for which bonuses added on to the procurement prices were established. The list of low-profitability and profitable farms is approved for the 1983-1985 period by the council of ministers for a union republic (not having an oblast subdivision), the council of ministers for an autonomous republic, the oblast executive committee or the kray executive committee upon presentation to the committee of the presidium of the council of ministers of the union republic (not having an oblast subdivision) for matters concerned with the agroindustrial complex and the oblast, kray and republic (ASSR) agroindustrial association. The selection of farms for this list of low-profitability and unprofitable installations must be carried out in keeping with the resource limits established for this purpose for a republic or oblast (kray).

The system for determining and establishing the bonuses is as follows: the bonuses for agricultural products sold to the state by low-profitability and unprofitable farms are established by the councils of ministers of the union republics (not having an oblast subdivision), the councils of ministers of autonomous republics and oblast and kray executive committees, in percentages of the procurement prices in effect on 1 January 1983 and taking into account the bonuses and deductions for product quality in keeping with the appropriations allocated for this purpose. The maximum amount of the bonus

for adding on to the procurement price for each type of agricultural product is established as being no higher than 75 percent of the procurement price and for potatoes and vegetables -- no higher than 75 percent of the average procurement price, while taking into account the planned implementation and effective periods for the prices.

The appropriations allocated to the union republics for the payment of bonuses added on to the procurement prices, for low-profitability and unprofitable farms, are distributed by the union republic councils of ministers among the oblasts, krays and autonomous republics in a manner so as to ensure covering the losses of those farms which operate under poor natural-economic conditions. The bonuses for adding on to procurement prices are established for low-profitability and unprofitable farms within the limits of the funds allocated on a differentiated basis by groups of farms (individual farms) and by types of agricultural products sold to the state depending upon the level of their losses or profitability.

It is not recommended that bonuses be established in amounts such that the total profitability of the low-profitability and unprofitable farms, taking into account the bonuses, becomes higher than that for neighboring farms which are not receiving the bonuses. When establishing the bonus amounts for adding on to the procurement prices for the farms, consideration is given to their requirements for funds for covering the losses sustained owing to objective natural-economic conditions and to the need for ensuring a minimal level of profitability in order to achieve growth in the production and sale of agricultural products to the state.

The committee of the presidium of the council of ministers of a union republic (not having an oblast subdivision) for matters concerned with the agroindustrial complex and the oblast, kray, republic (ASSR) agroindustrial associations examine the proposals of the rayon agroindustrial associations concerning the bonus amounts for adding on to the procurement prices for agricultural products sold to the state by low-profitability and unprofitable farms, within the limits of the funds allocated to an oblast, kray or autonomous republic for this purpose, and submit them for approval to the councils of ministers of the union republics (not having an oblast subdivision), to the councils of ministers of autonomous republics and to the oblast and kray executive committees, who approve the procurement price bonuses by groups of low-profitability and unprofitable farms (or individual farms) and by types of agricultural products and ensure that they are made available to the councils of rayon agroindustrial associations, the branch organs of administration, the mentioned farms and to the procurement, processing, trade and other enterprises and organizations located on the territory of the union (not having an oblast subdivision) republic, autonomous republic, kray or oblast, in the system for distributing the price lists for procurement prices.

If the farms sell products, including direct sales, to procurement, trade and other enterprises and organizations located outside the borders of the autonomous republic, kray or oblast, then the farm presents these enterprises and organizations with an extract from a decision handed down by the appropriate organs concerning the bonus amounts for adding on to the procurement prices, established for the farms for the given types of products; the extract is certified by the rayon executive committee.

The system for the payment, reimbursement and taking into account of the bonuses consists mainly of the following. The payment of procurement price bonuses to low-profitability and unprofitable farms is carried out by the procurement, processing, trade and other enterprises and organizations which procure agricultural products, for products accepted and credited towards fulfillment of the plan for sales to the state (plan and above-plan), with the exception of products sold on the kolkhoz market to sovkhoz manual and office workers and expended for public catering, pedigree cattle, eggs used for incubation and also the delivery weight of cattle transferred over to cattle fattening farms by the procurement organizations for fattening, grazing and maturing and also the delivery weight of young livestock transferred over to inter-farm enterprises by participating farms, with no crediting of this weight towards fulfillment of the plan for the participating farms.

The payment of procurement price bonuses for products sold by an inter-farm enterprise and also by a kolkhoz or sovkhoz which is performing the function of an inter-farm enterprise, in behalf of fulfillment of the plan for low-profitability and unprofitable participating farms, is carried out by the procurement organization directly to the low-profitability (or unprofitable) farm. The basis for the payment by the procurement organization of the procurement price bonus, in the established amount and for products sold to the state by low-profitability and unprofitable farms, is a decision handed down by the council of ministers of the union republic (not having an oblast subdivision), the council of ministers of an autonomous republic or by an oblast or kray executive committee, with the decision being made available to the procurement parties.

The procurement price bonuses for low-profitability and unprofitable farms are paid by the procurement organizations simultaneously with the accounts for products sold to the state. The bonus amounts are indicated in the acceptance receipts, lists and other accounting documents, for products received from low-profitability and unprofitable farms, to whom the procurement price bonuses are being paid. The following additional information is provided in these documents: "the bonus percentage for the low-profitability (or unprofitable) farm"; the value of the product in accordance with the procurement price and taking into account the deductions and bonuses for quality"; "the bonus amounts for the low-profitability (or unprofitable) farm". The total amount of bonuses for a low-profitability (or unprofitable) farm is computed based upon the total sum indicated in the acceptance receipts under the line entitled "Total Value Taking Into Account the Quality and Less the Payments for the Drying, Cleaning and Processing of Grain and Oil-Bearing Crops, Raw Cotton and Other Products."

The procurement price bonuses for low-profitability and unprofitable farms are not included in the computation of the 50 percent bonus payment for adding on to the procurement prices, paid to kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other agricultural enterprises and associations for the sale of agricultural products to the state over and above the average level achieved during the 10th Five-Year Plan, or in the computation for the payment of a 50 percent bonus to cotton growing farms which did not convert over to the delivery of machine harvested raw cotton by varieties and for sale over and above the firm plan for 1980, defined more precisely in conformity with the change in the overall planned procurements. The procurement price bonuses for products sold to the state

profitability and unprofitable farms are included in the total amount of earnings from the sale of agricultural products.

The farms are using the additional income obtained from the increase in procurement prices and from the introduction of bonuses added on to them mainly for carrying out measures associated with increasing the production of agricultural products and strengthening their economies. The payment of procurement price bonuses to low-profitability and unprofitable farms for all types of agricultural products sold to the state is carried out by the procurement enterprises and organizations simultaneously with payment for the products on a non-cash basis, based upon credit extended to them in a special loan account and in accordance with the system called for in Instruction No. 1 of USSR Gosbank.

The bonus amounts paid to low-profitability and unprofitable farms are reimbursed to all of the procurement organizations of union, republic and local subordination from a special account opened at Gosbank institutions for the payment of procurement price bonuses for products sold to the state by low-profitability and unprofitable farms, in accordance with balance account No. 676 entitled "Account for the Differences in Prices Reimbursed From Funds of the Republic Budgets of Union Republics," using appropriations called for in the budget of the union republic. In order to be reimbursed for bonuses paid out, the procurement organizations, no later than the 4th and 19th of each month, must present the institutes of Gosbank with a statement using the established form. At the end of the year, unused appropriations allocated for the payment of procurement price bonuses for products sold to the state by low-profitability and unprofitable farms are transferred over to the next year for the payment of these bonuses.

The financial and agricultural organs and the organs of price formation are systematically exercising control over the correctness and timeliness of procurement price bonus payments for products sold to the state by low-profitability and unprofitable farms. If inspections reveal that excessive amounts have been paid out, the procurement organizations must return these amounts to the republic budget within a 10-day period. For those amounts which are not recovered on a timely basis or in the established manner, a fine amounting to 5 percent for each day that the amount is overdue is imposed.

The procurement price bonus amounts received by low-profitability and unprofitable farms for agricultural products and also the bonus payments made by the procurement, processing, trade and other enterprises and organizations are taken into account in initial accounting and in annual and periodic accounting in the manner prescribed by the USSR Central Statistical Administration, the USSR Ministry of Finances and the respective ministries and departments.

The new increase in procurement prices for agricultural products sold to the state and the introduction of bonuses for adding on to these prices, for products sold to the state by low-profitability and unprofitable kolkhozes and sovkhozes are creating favorable conditions for strengthening the economies of the farms and they are making it possible to operate on a profitable basis and to combine the interests of all those participating in the agroindustrial

complex. The efficient and highly effective utilization of the funds allocated for this purpose will ensure further increases in the production and procurements of agricultural products.

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FORESTRY AND TIMBER

DEVELOPMENT OF IRKUTSK OBLAST TIMBER INDUSTRY DISCUSSED AT PARTY PLENUM

Moscow LESNAYA PROMYSHLENNOST' in Russian 14 Jun 83 pp 1, 3

/Article by V. Alekseyev and V. Kalinkin, Irkutsk: "Timber Complex in the Angara River Region"/

/Text/ There is good reason for referring to the Angara River region as a generous treasure house of "green gold." The taiga occupies a large portion of the territory of Irkutsk Oblast. The supply of wood here amounts to more than 8 billion cubic meters. The Siberian forests are especially valuable in that coniferous trees having high marketable qualities predominate in them. This year 32 million cubic meters of wood are being procured in the Angara River region, although the estimated felling area is such that twice this amount could be obtained.

The forestry branch is developing at a high tempo. It is the oblast's leading branch of industry. The Bratsk and Ust'-Ilimskiy timber industry complexes and a number of new timber industry farms and enterprises for the thorough processing of wood were erected within a short period of time. The annual production volume for timber products has reached 1.5 billion rubles. The oblast accounts for from 10 to 30 percent of the all-union procurements of timber and the production of fibreboard panels, sleepers, oleoresins and cellulose, including all types of cord products. Many types of products are exported.

Further development of the timber complex, improvements in its structure and the intensive and efficient use of raw material resources -- is an object of great and constant concern by the oblast party organization. These problems are being examined on a systematic basis during meetings of the bureau of the oblast's CPSU committee and by the municipal and rayon party organizations. In light of the decisions handed down during the 26th party congress and the November (1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, these matters were discussed during a recent Plenum of the oblast's party committee held in Irkutsk.

The speaker, the 1st secretary of the oblast's CPSU committee V.I. Sitnikov, noted that the oblast's party organization, relying upon constant assistance and support from the CPSU Central Committee, the government and USSR Minlesbumprom /Ministry of the Lumber and Paper Industries/, is carrying out a great amount of work in connection with achieving the aims of the 26th party

Congress with regard to supplying the timber industry enterprises with highly productive equipment, increasing the production of progressive types of products and raising the completeness of the wood processing work.

The communists will play a leading role in carrying out this work. At branch enterprises throughout the oblast there are 200 primary party organization in operation, with more than 11,000 communists included in their ranks. This represents a great force.

Since the beginning of the 11th Five-Year Plan, more than 700 million rubles have been invested in the development of the timber industry complex. This has made it possible to place in operation large capabilities for the procurement and processing of wood and to increase the amount of fixed capital by more than 3 billion rubles.

In analyzing the work already carried out, V.I. Sitnikov noted that as a result of the selfless work of many production collectives and the organizational work of party, soviet, professional trade union, komsomol and economic organizations, definite successes have been achieved in fulfilling the tasks of the five-year plan and in raising production efficiency and the quality of the work. The production of the more important types of timber and paper products has increased noticeably.

The plans for 2 years of the five-year plan were fulfilled ahead of schedule by the collectives of the Kitoyles, Irkutskles and Baykal Production Associations and a number of timber industry farms and khimleskhov's wood chemistry establishments. Many brigades are already in behalf of 1984. The majority of the associations and enterprises have coped with the plan for 5 months and the rate of growth in the production volumes is 15 percent.

At the same time, the change towards improved efficiency is still coming about very slowly. The level of party and economic management of the branch's enterprises still does not fully meet the requirements of the 26th party congress and the November (1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee.

Only weak use is being made of the reserves available for carrying out the planned tasks, including product deliveries in accordance with agreed upon contracts. Since the beginning of the five-year plan, the national economy has sustained a shortfall of more than 5 million cubic meters of workable wood, approximately 600,000 tons of cellulose and large quantities of lumber, sleepers, plywood and other products. The output-capital ratio and production profitability have decreased and a reduction has taken place in the rates of growth in labor productivity. The production of consumer goods is extremely limited.

The Plenum devoted a great amount of attention to analyzing the unsatisfactory state of affairs in timber-logging production operations. The requirements for wood are increasing with each passing year while the volumes being procured are decreasing. The leaders of the All-Union Irkutsklesprom Association -- chief V. Sakharov and chief engineer Ye. Kudryashov -- were criticized for the low level of subunit administration and systematic violations of planning, executive and contractual discipline. Over a period of many years, a majority of the

enterprises of this association have been performing in a poor manner. The timber procurements here continue to be of a seasonal nature, with proper engineering support for production operations not being ensured. The construction of year-round roads is lagging seriously behind. The coefficient of use of equipment does not exceed 45 percent. The losses in working time have become exceedingly great.

It is for all of these reasons that Irkutsklesprom is unable to carry out its tasks for the transporting and production of workable wood and that disruptions are taking place in the deliveries of almost all types of wood called for in the assortment program. At the same time, leading experience is not being disseminated on an extensive scale. The following facts have been cited: last year the consolidated cost accounting all-round brigade of laureate of the State Prize of the USSR N. Polonin, of the Ust'-Udinskiy Timber Industry Farm, surpassed by twofold its task for labor productivity and procured 172,000 cubic meters of timber. Almost the same results were achieved by the brigade of V. Tkachev of the Bayandayevskiy Timber Industry Farm. The best timber carrier crews of the Novochunskiy Timber Industry Farm, as a result of proper road maintenance and extended service life for the motor vehicles up to 200,000 kilometers with no capital repair work being carried out, are exceeding by a factor of 1.5-2 the average motor vehicle output for the oblast. However, these best examples of highly productive labor are not very extensive in nature. No perceptible return is being realized from five all-union schools for leading experience, created at enterprises of the association.

V. Sakharov considered the criticism to be quite fair and in his speech he assured those participating in the plenum that this year will mark a turning point in the activities of the all-union association.

In touching upon the problem of raising the operational reliability of the timber procurement equipment, the speakers expressed such a recommendation. At the present time the enterprises are receiving more and more new types of machines. Within the Irkutsklesprom system alone there are 1,500 KrAZ /Kremenchug Automobile Plant/ motor vehicles and more than 2,000 skidding tractors, including 800 non-choker types. Why is it that the Altay Tractor Plant and the Kremenchug Automobile Plant do not open their own firm centers in the oblast for the technical servicing and repair of equipment, just as KamAZ /Kamskiy Automobile Plant/ is doing? The mentioned recommendation is being presented and is deserving of study.

The leaders of the Bratsk LPK /Lumber Industry Complex/ and the Baykal TsBK /Central Office of Regional Studies/ were criticized to a like degree from the tribunal of the plenum. Over the course of a considerable period of time, these enterprises have been included in the ranks of backward units. By no means are their capabilities being utilized fully. A high breakdown rate for the equipment, idle time, overexpenditures of raw materials and chemicals and considerable personnel turnover all testify to the unsatisfactory organization of the work, especially engineering support. Forced periods of equipment idle time occur as a result of raw material shortages and defective equipment, with the latter caused by inefficient work on the part of the engineering and supply services. This dampens the ardor of the personnel and creates irritability in a collective. In addition, according to G. Panova, a bleaching specialist at

a cellulose plant of the Bratsk LPK Association, the personnel lose confidence in their abilities.

The general director of the Bratsk Timber Industry Complex, G. Kurakin, confirmed the just nature of the shortcomings mentioned. However, his speech left the impression that the management of the complex clearly does not know how to improve the association's situation, while relying chiefly upon internal potential. For the most part, the speaker set his hopes on allied workers and appealed to the ministry for assistance.

In the report and also the speech by the 1st deputy minister of the USSR Timber, Pulp and Paper and Wood Processing Industry N. Nikol'skiy, emphasis was placed upon the fact that the root of all of the problems lies in the faulty style of management for the complex, the insufficient competence and responsibility of the production commanders and engineering personnel, the ignorant operation of equipment and weak political work in the labor collectives. The program planned for eliminating bottlenecks is not being carried out and the causes of breakdowns are not being investigated. Certainly the gigantic Bratsk LPK, where more than 19,000 individuals are working, requires more productive assistance from the ministry. Solutions are required on an urgent basis for such problems as creating a reliable raw materials base, improving the internal structure of management, modernizing the equipment and providing housing for the workers. Opportunities exist for raising the Bratsk Timber Complex to a normal operational regime, but it is obvious that full advantage is not being taken of them. Common and harmonious efforts are required here.

In the reports delivered by the speakers, a sense of urgency was felt whenever mention was made of the problem of mechanizing the principal production processes. It is by no means an accident that today approximately 30,000 workers are performing manual labor in the forestry industry throughout the oblast. At some enterprises, the proportion of this type of labor has even increased in recent years. For example, at this same Bratsk LPK Association, where there are almost 2,000 certified ITR's [engineering and technical personnel], more than 3,000 workers are engaged in carrying out wood sorting and bucking work and other laborious operations, despite the fact that proper mechanization of production could release 2,000 of them from having to perform such work. Although the Scientific-Research Institute of Cellulose and Cardboard is located alongside the complex, its leaders (director M. Olontsev) are showing no interest in solving the specific tasks associated with technical progress. Could this not explain why last year only one individual was released from having to perform manual labor?

The report and speeches also placed emphasis upon the need for thrifty and zealous use of all material resources. The chief path for accomplishing this -- the introduction into operations, based upon the experience of workers in Ivano-Frankovsk Oblast and the collectives at the Kotlas and Solikamsk TsBK's, of a waste-free, energy-conserving technology. The experience accumulated by the collective at the Order of the Red Banner of Labor Kitoyles Association was cited as an example. Here practically all of the wood is used in the work. However, the speakers recognized in a self-critical manner that by no means is the entire biomass of wood being employed to form the final product in the oblast. Approximately 3 million cubic meters of wood raw materials are being lost pointlessly out in the felling areas. Large quantities of sawdust, bark

and low-grade wood are being shipped to waste dumps for burning. Valuable raw materials that could be used for the production of nutrient yeasts are being destroyed, while at the same time workable wood is being broken up into technological chips.

It is known that the Bratsk LPK and Ust'-Ilimskiy LPK associations were designed for a waste-free technology. But the general contractor for Bratskgesstroy failed to use approximately 1 billion rubles worth of capital investments. As a result, there was a reduction in construction here and, based upon an instruction handed down by USSR Minenergo /Ministry of Power and Electrification, they began transferring workers and equipment to other construction sites throughout the country. The cycle for the comprehensive processing of wood, owing to the absence of hydrolytic and other allied production efforts, remains open. In the opinion of those who participated in the plenum, the dragging out of the schedules for completing the erection of giant forestry complexes in the Angara River region cannot be tolerated. Use must be made of all available resources here. The minister, Comrade Neporoshnyy, and the chief of Bratskgesstroy, Comrade Zakopyrin, based upon national and all-state interests, must undertake urgent measures aimed at ensuring the placing in operation of all of the planned capabilities and also housing and social and cultural facilities.

During the Plenum, considerable attention was also given to the problem of accelerating the construction in the oblast of new timber industry farms, especially in the zone of the BAM /Baykal-Amur Trunkline/ and the Bratsk Reservoir, a large furniture factory in Irkutsk and additional purification installations at the Baykal TsBK. It was stated during the Plenum that the construction organizations of Glavbamstroy should ideally be transferred over to these projects as they are released from work on the trunkline.

The intolerable nature of the wasteful use of the forestry raw material bases was pointed out, with Goslesoinspektsiya being criticized for its passive attitude in this regard. Owing to a lack of control over numerous self-procurement specialists, the best forestry tracts at raw material bases of the branch's enterprises are being cut down. Excessive cuttings and exhaustion of the Irkutsk felling areas are raising the need for importing wood from other regions of the country for the oblast's processing enterprises. Attention was focused on this problem in the report and in the speeches delivered by the secretaries of the Nizhneilimskiy and Chunskiy Rayon Party Committees K. Safonov and V. Kudryavtsev and by the brigade leader of a consolidated tree-felling brigade of the Kvitok Tayshetles Association Timber Industry Farm V. Kuz'min and others. At the same time, emphasis was placed upon the importance of intensifying forest restoration operations. As yet, only mediocre results have been achieved in this regard.

Concern for the personnel, for ensuring that the branch is supplied with skilled workers and that these workers remain in the rural areas was evidenced in all of the speeches. Criticism was directed at those farm leaders and party and professional trade union committees who are doing very little towards creating stable collectives, improving working and living conditions for the workers and who are making only weak use of the opportunities afforded by subsidiary farms.

It was also stated that the branch oblast committee of the professional trade union is overlooking a great deal. It is not always well informed regarding the activities of the combined professional trade union committees, it is not providing them with sufficient practical assistance and it is tolerating incidents of formalism in the organization of the socialist competition and in the movement for achieving a communist attitude towards labor. The chairman of the oblast committee of the professional trade union, L. Dranishnikov, agreed with these critical comments. In his speech, he discussed the measures being undertaken by the professional trade union organizations in the interest of eliminating the shortcomings mentioned, strengthening labor discipline and introducing the brigade forms of labor and also the competition for the "Green Taiga" prize, which is so popular among the oblast's lumber jacks.

The discussion during the Plenum of the Irkutsk Oblast Party Committee of the problems concerned with developing the forestry branch and further raising its efficiency took place in a business-like and interesting atmosphere and from a standpoint of high exactingness. In the decree which was adopted, definite measures were set forth for eliminating the mentioned shortcomings and derelictions and an extensive program was outlined for improving the style and methods of party management of the branch and for intensifying political and organizational work in mobilizing the labor collectives for unconditional fulfillment of the tasks for 1983 and the five-year plan on the whole. The recommendation has been made to have the party organizations concentrate their efforts on solving the branch's key tasks, exercise more efficient control and carry out checks upon decisions adopted and raise the responsibility of the personnel for their assigned tasks.

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